



## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, “severe forms of trafficking in persons”, commonly called human trafficking, is defined (Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000) as:

- (A) Sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; or
- (B) The recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery; and

**WHEREAS**, the International Labor Organization estimates that there are 40.3 million victims of human trafficking globally, including hundreds of thousands of victims in the United States. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children conservatively estimates that 100,000 children are exploited each year for prostitution in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States State Department’s Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons and the International Labor Organization estimate that human trafficking is a \$150 billion a year industry worldwide; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Department of Transportation (U.S. DOT) seeks the elimination of human trafficking, including the trafficking industry’s use of the U.S. transportation system and transportation-related resources, and intends to leverage partnerships with states and local governments, the transportation industry, and travel entities to maximize efforts toward that goal; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. DOT established Transportation Leaders Against Human Trafficking (TLAHT) in 2012 as an initiative comprised of transportation and travel industry stakeholders, working jointly to maximize their collective impact in combating human trafficking; and,

**WHEREAS**, this partnership focuses on five key areas and connects transportation stakeholders to available resources on:

1. Industry leadership;
2. Industry training and education;
3. Policy development;
4. Public awareness and outreach;
5. Information sharing and analysis; and

**WHEREAS**, TLAHT offers a variety of cost-free resources, including a transportation leaders pledge, anti-human trafficking strategies, training resources, and public awareness materials; and

**WHEREAS**, the TLAHT Pledge is a communication of leadership to other stakeholders regarding the importance of taking a stand against human trafficking; and

**WHEREAS**, the TLAHT Pledge is a commitment to employee education, raising public awareness, and measuring a collective impact on the part of the Mid America Association of State Transportation Officials (MAASTO) and its member states; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the MAASTO Board of Directors commits to taking the Transportation Leaders Against Human Trafficking Pledge to illustrate the Board’s commitment to the eradication of human trafficking and support of anti-trafficking activities.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Secretary of MAASTO shall prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution and forward copies to all MAASTO states.

Adopted by the MAASTO Board on:

May 24, 2018

