

## RESOLUTION

Sponsored by the Honorable Elizabeth “Liz” Doody Gorman, Cook County Commissioner

### A RESOLUTION URGING LEGISLATION THAT WOULD REQUIRE CELLULAR PHONE PROVIDERS TO REQUIRE IDENTIFICATION ON ALL CUSTOMERS

**WHEREAS**, human trafficking is defined by the United States Department of State as “activities involved when one person obtains or holds another person in compelled service; and

**WHEREAS**, an estimated 2.5 million people, 80 percent of whom are women and girls, worldwide are victims of this modern day form of slavery; and

**WHEREAS**, in the city of Chicago and suburban Cook County someone is reported missing every 30 minutes, many of those are girls as young as twelve years old who are held against their will and fall victim to Human Trafficking; and

**WHEREAS**, recent statistics have named Human Trafficking the second largest most profitable criminal enterprise among members of organized crime and violent street gangs; and

**WHEREAS**, modern technology allows traffickers to operate virtually undetected by the use of social media where many victims are forced to pose for humiliating and degrading pictures that are then posted on the internet and available to be viewed by individuals seeking to engage in sexual acts in exchange for money further contributing to the sexual exploitation; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the most valuable resources available to traffickers to continue to remain undetected while maintaining constant communication with victims of Human Trafficking, their associates, and potential customers is the use of cellular phones; and

**WHEREAS**, no contract prepaid cell phones are referred to on the street as burners or drop phones and are impossible to track because phone carriers do not require a contact, photo identification or a minimum age; and

**WHEREAS**, in instances where law enforcement’s only lead in rescuing a kidnapped victim is being able to determine who a cell phone number is registered too, can be the difference between life and death.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the President and Cook County Board of Commissioners urges the United States Congress and the Illinois General Assembly to pass legislation that would require all cell phone carriers to secure and keep on file photo identification which includes a physical address from any person wishing to obtain a cellular phone whether or not a contract is involved.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be presented to the President of the United States, the legislative leaders of Congress from both political parties, the Governor of the State of Illinois, the legislative leaders of the General Assembly from both political parties and all Members of Congress who represent Cook County and all Members of the Illinois General Assembly who represent Cook County.