

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS, the United States was founded upon the principle that all people are created with the unalienable right to freedom, and added the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution making slavery illegal; and**

**WHEREAS, human trafficking is modern-day slavery, claiming millions of victims worldwide, and found in the United States most often in the form of sexual exploitation, forced labor, involuntary servitude, and debt bondage; and**

**WHEREAS, this horrific crime, which denies human dignity and freedom, and fuels organized crime, exists in every city; and**

**WHEREAS, even though awareness of this crime is growing, human trafficking continues to go unreported due to its isolating nature, the misunderstanding of its definition, and the lack of awareness about its indicators; and**

**WHEREAS, increased community education on how to identify victims of human trafficking along with increased knowledge of local resources and services for those affected by these criminal actions can help restore freedom and dignity to identified survivors, as well as help diminish the number of future victims; and**

**WHEREAS, fighting human trafficking is a shared responsibility, the efforts by our local community to promote the yearly observance of “Human Trafficking Awareness Month” in January enacts one of the examples of the continuous commitment in the United States and state of Iowa to increase awareness of and to actively eradicate human trafficking.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joe Shumway, Mayor and President of City Council Laramie, Wyoming, do hereby proclaim August 20 as**

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH**

**and urge all citizens to join in this observance.**

**Dated this 4<sup>th</sup> day of August 2020.**

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**Joe Shumway  
Mayor and President of Laramie City Council**

**Attest:**

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**Nancy Bartholomew  
City Clerk**