

**GOVERNOR'S STATEMENT UPON SIGNING  
SENATE BILL NO. 2691  
(First Reprint)**

Today, I am signing Senate Bill No. 2691 (First Reprint) into law, which makes a supplemental appropriation of \$100,000 to the Commission on Human Trafficking. Human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery that heinously exploits vulnerable individuals for sexual purposes or labor. Due to the State's dense population and location in the heart of the I-95 corridor, New Jersey is particularly susceptible to human trafficking. As such, my Administration is ever-vigilant to fight human trafficking and protect those who are vulnerable to exploitation.

I am proud of New Jersey law enforcement's efforts to combat this scourge. The State's Human Trafficking Unit has worked tirelessly with law enforcement partners at all levels to rescue trafficking victims and bring human traffickers to justice. My Administration is also engaged with victim advocates in order to raise awareness about human trafficking and to safely return and support its survivors.

On June 30, 2019, I issued Executive Order No. 73 directing the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting ("Director") to place certain items of appropriation representing discretionary spending into reserve to ensure that the State budget remains in balance while maintaining a responsible anticipated closing fund balance and making the statutorily required credit to the Surplus Revenue Fund, more commonly known as the rainy day fund, consistent with law. Section 1 of Executive Order No. 73 authorized and directed the Director to supplement the list of reserved items of appropriation throughout Fiscal Year 2020 as necessary to effectuate the purposes of my order. In accordance with Executive Order No. 73, the Director shall review the appropriation contained in this bill to determine whether this appropriation should be reserved based on the factors outlined in the Executive Order.

Date: August 23, 2019

/s/ Philip D. Murphy

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Matthew J. Platkin

Chief Counsel to the Governor