

By Senator Saunders

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Senate Resolution

A resolution commending Irma Rivera and Hector Ortiz.

WHEREAS, Irma Rivera and Hector Ortiz, her husband, have demonstrated the vital role that concerned citizens play in combating violent crimes against children through their own persistence and courage in rescuing a 13-year-old Guatemalan girl and her premature infant son, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rivera, after befriending this young neighbor, discovered that she was being held captive as a domestic and sex slave and undertook an extended odyssey for more than a year of ardent and unfailing efforts to advocate for and free this child and, subsequently, her child from bondage at the hands of her captives, and

WHEREAS, the Rivera-Ortiz family are to be recognized for their compassion and dedication to end the indenture of a fellow human being and their dedication to assuring that the systems in place in the State of Florida work toward ending violence and involuntary servitude for all individuals who are subject to such crimes against humanity, and

WHEREAS, Irma Rivera and Hector Ortiz are commended for their courage and persistence and setting an example for all of the people of Florida to recognize and address the serious issue of human bondage and slavery, thereby assuring that any person living in Florida not be held as a slave or victim of human trafficking, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

1           That Irma Rivera and Hector Ortiz are commended for  
2 demonstrating the value of human life for all of the people of  
3 the State of Florida through their courage and persistence.  
4           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution,  
5 with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Irma  
6 Rivera and Hector Ortiz as a token of the sentiments of the  
7 Florida Senate.  
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