RESOLUTION NO: 22-7 A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING THE CITY OF PINSON A "Human Trafficking Free Zone"

WHEREAS, the City of Birmingham has been chosen to host the World Games 2022, an international sporting event that will bring thousand of athletes, countless tourists, and media, to the Greater Birmingham area: and

WHEREAS, an increase in tourists seeking entertainment, including commercial sex, increases the potential risk for exploitation and human trafficking. Traffickers are opportunistic hunters, and they see major sporting events and the hundreds of thousands of people who flock to sports venues as an opportunity for huge profits with very little risk of penalty or punishment; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a form of modern-day slavery in which victims are forced to work in various forms of exploitation, including debt bondage, forced marriage, labor and commercial sexual exploitation, that are induced through force, fraud or coercion. The City of Pinson, Alabama is committed to becoming a Trafficking Free Zone ensuring that our community is prepared to recognize signs of human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, due to its isolating nature, many individuals are unaware that trafficking exists in their neighborhoods. The first step in eliminating human trafficking in our community is to educate others. We must work diligently to ensure that all front-line industries are aware of this issue and how to sport it.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City Council and Mayor of the City of Pinson do hereby proclaim that we will continue our efforts to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of our children and vulnerable adults, and mitigate the associated public safety, economic, and health risks to our community, in collaboration with the Child Trafficking Solutions Project, the U.S. Institute Against Human Trafficking, and other anti-human trafficking organizations by,

COMBATING COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION THROUGH COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATION OF OUR STAFF AND IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY AGAINST ANY ACT WHICH MAY SUPPORT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

And ask ALL citizens of the City of Pinson join us in promoting a shift away from the culture of tolerance toward human trafficking.

ADOPTED this 20th day of January, 2022.

APPROVED this 20th day of January, 2022.

JOE COCHRAN, MAYOR

Attest:

MARIÈ TURNER, CITY CLERK/TREASURER

CERTIFICATION OF CITY CLERK/TREASURER

STATE OF ALABAMA

JEFFERSON COUNTY

I, Marie Turner, City Clerk/Treasurer of the City of Pinson, Alabama, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Pinson Alabama, on the 20th day of January, 2022.

Witness my hand and seal of office this 20th day of January, 2022.

Marie Turner, City Clerk/Treasurer