



NEWS RELEASE

LOUISIANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Rep. Hodges meets with US State Department on Human Trafficking

State Representative Valarie Hodges, R-Denham Springs, met with Shared Hope International, an organization that aims to end sex trafficking to discuss past and present legislation on the issue of human trafficking.

The group, whose objective is to examine local and international laws on human trafficking and global efforts to fight such issues, was welcomed to the Capitol by Rep. Hodges Wednesday, August 16. They were given information regarding SB 42, which creates a 17 member Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission within the office of the governor, as well as information regarding Louisiana's past legislation in the area of human trafficking, trafficking of children for sexual purposes, and commercial sexual exploitation since the enactment of the human trafficking statute of 2005.

Rep Hodges said, "Human Trafficking is a serious issue affecting us all globally. Shared Hope International is working with us to stop this heinous crime. Many of us do not realize the gravity of the situation and how it impacts us here at home, and it is my goal to increase awareness of this issue in the hopes of stopping such acts from occurring."

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