
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 442 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY HAGGERTY, K. BOYLE, COHEN, BAKER, B. BOYLE,
MILLARD, COX, SACCONI, KAVULICH, CALTAGIRONE, CLYMER,
DENLINGER, MURT, KORTZ AND DeLUCA, SEPTEMBER 19, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, SEPTEMBER 19, 2013

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging Russian President Vladimir Putin to repeal the Russian
2 Federation Federal Law No. 272-FZ of 2012-12-28 "On Sanctions
3 For Individuals Violating Fundamental Human Rights and
4 Freedoms of the Citizens of the Russian Federation," which
5 law is also informally known as Dima Yakovlev Bill, Dima
6 Yakovlev Act or anti-Magnitsky law.

7 WHEREAS, The Russian Federation Federal Law No. 272-FZ of
8 2012-12-28 bans certain United States citizens from entering
9 Russia, bars nongovernmental organizations from any political
10 activities within Russia and, more importantly, bans United
11 States citizens from adopting children from Russia; and

12 WHEREAS, The law nullifies a recent agreement between the
13 United States and Russia in which the countries agreed to
14 additional safeguards to protect children and parties involved
15 in intercountry adoptions; and

16 WHEREAS, The law, which took effect on January 1, 2013, has
17 affected hundreds of United States families who were in the
18 process of adopting children from Russia; and

19 WHEREAS, UNICEF estimates that there are about 740,000

1 children not in parental custody in Russia, while only 18,000
2 Russians are now waiting to adopt a child; and

3 WHEREAS, The Bureau of Consular Affairs within the United
4 States Department of State reports statistics that from 1999
5 through 2012, United States families adopted 45,861 children
6 from Russia; and

7 WHEREAS, The male-to-female ratio is about even where 23,094
8 Russian males have been adopted and where 22,767 females have
9 been adopted; and

10 WHEREAS, Russian citizens adopted by families in the United
11 States range in age from under 1 year of age to over 18 years of
12 age. Specifically, United States families have adopted 10,372
13 Russian children under 1 year of age, 20,409 Russian children
14 between 1 and 2 years of age, 5,365 children between 3 and 4
15 years of age, 8,474 children between 5 and 12 years of age,
16 1,237 children between 13 and 17 years of age and 4 Russian
17 citizens over 18 years of age; and

18 WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is home to 12,015
19 adopted children from all over the world and Pennsylvanians
20 adopted 295 children in the year 2012; therefore be it

21 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
22 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania strongly support the repeal of the
23 Russian Federation Federal Law No. 272-FZ of 2012-12-28 "On
24 Sanctions For Individuals Violating Fundamental Human Rights and
25 Freedoms of the Citizens of the Russian Federation"; and be it
26 further

27 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
28 the President of the United States, Vice President of the United
29 States, United States Secretary of State, each member of
30 Congress from Pennsylvania and to the Governor of Pennsylvania;

1 and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the
3 United States Ambassador to Russia, who shall be urged to
4 transmit a copy to the Russian Ambassador to the United States.