

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 393 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY LEACH, STACK, WOZNIAK, KASUNIC, FERLO, WASHINGTON,
ERICKSON, TEPLITZ, GREENLEAF, BREWSTER, RAFFERTY, FARNESE,
DINNIMAN, ALLOWAY AND BROWNE, MAY 7, 2014

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, MAY 7, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing May 25, 2014, as "National Missing Children's Day"
2 in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Between 1979 and 1981, a series of high-profile
4 missing children cases became national headlines; and

5 WHEREAS, Three such cases contributed to the shock of the
6 nation's consciousness, bringing attention to the seriousness of
7 child victimization and forever changing the response by law
8 enforcement agencies to reports of missing children; and

9 WHEREAS, The massive search and media attention that followed
10 the disappearance of Etan Patz in 1979 focused the nation's
11 attention on the problem of child abduction and lack of plans to
12 address it; and

13 WHEREAS, From 1979 through 1981, national media attention was
14 focused on Atlanta, Georgia, where 29 bodies of young boys and
15 girls were discovered in lakes, marshes and ponds along roadside
16 trails; and

17 WHEREAS, On July 27, 1981, 6-year-old Adam Walsh disappeared

1 from a Florida shopping mall; and

2 WHEREAS, The tragedies of these children and others exposed a
3 fundamental flaw; and

4 WHEREAS, There was no coordinated effort among Federal, state
5 and local law enforcement, no national response system in place
6 and no central resource to help searching families; and

7 WHEREAS, The momentum that began with the disappearance of
8 Etan, Adam and the 29 missing and murdered children of Atlanta,
9 Georgia, led to photographs of missing children on milk cartons
10 and, ultimately, a nationwide movement; and

11 WHEREAS, In 1983, President Ronald Reagan proclaimed May 25
12 as "National Missing Children's Day"; and

13 WHEREAS, "National Missing Children's Day" is a reminder to
14 all parents and guardians of the need for high-quality
15 photographs of their children for use in case of an emergency
16 and for the need for everyone to pay close attention to the
17 posters and photographs of missing children; and

18 WHEREAS, "Take 25" is a campaign created by the National
19 Center for Missing and Exploited Children that asks families,
20 educators, law enforcement officers and trusted adults to take
21 25 minutes to talk to children about safety; and

22 WHEREAS, Created in honor of National Missing Children's Day,
23 "Take 25" helps educate communities on safety risks and ways to
24 better protect the children in their lives; and

25 WHEREAS, During the months of April and May, communities are
26 invited to join the National Center for Missing and Exploited
27 Children in this grassroots effort by promoting ongoing safety
28 conversations between children and their families; therefore be
29 it

30 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize May 25, 2014, as

1 "National Missing Children's Day" in Pennsylvania.