



Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
House of Representatives

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**M E M O R A N D U M**

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TO : All House Members  
FROM : Hon. Will Tallman  
SUBJECT : Parental Rights *WJT*  
DATE : February 9, 2011

I will be introducing a resolution in the near future which will urge the U.S. Congress to pass the Parental Rights amendment to the federal Constitution.

As you may be aware, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is a proposed treaty which may be ratified by the U.S. So far, 192 other countries have agreed to the terms of the treaty, with the U.S. and Somalia being the only U.N. member nations who have not accepted it.

*The UNCRC is an international convention setting out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of children. Nations that ratify this international convention are bound to it by international law. Compliance is monitored by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, which is composed of members from countries around the world.*

*I believe this protocol poses a serious threat to parental rights as well as U.S. sovereignty, as the UNCRC will be able to direct the intrusion of our federal government into our family dynamics, and require our government to dictate and monitor the actions of our families without the benefit of due process.*

In response to the UNCRC, H.J. Res. 42 had been introduced last session by U.S. Representative Peter Hoekstra and sponsored by 129 members of the U.S. House. H.J. Res. 42 states that:

- the liberty of parents to direct the upbringing and education of their children is a fundamental right.
- neither the United States nor any state shall infringe upon this right without demonstrating that its governmental interest as applied to the person is of the highest order and not otherwise served.
- no treaty may be adopted nor shall any source of international law be employed to supersede, modify, interpret, or apply to the rights guaranteed by this amendment.

My resolution will urge the U.S. Congress to pass a parental rights resolution, similar to H.J. Res. 42 of last session and submit it to the states for ratification, and thus add the Parental Rights amendment to the federal Constitution.

If you would like to join me in sponsoring this resolution, please contact Jodi Addington in my Harrisburg office at 260-6181 or via e-mail at [jaddingt@pahousegop.com](mailto:jaddingt@pahousegop.com). Thank you.

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5 East Wing PO Box 202193  
Phone: (717) 783-8875 Fax: (717) 705-7012  
E-mail: [jaddingt@pahousegop.com](mailto:jaddingt@pahousegop.com)