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*Senate of Pennsylvania*

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October 18, 2011

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TO: All Senators

FROM: Senator Kim Ward *KW*

SUBJECT: Co-Sponsorship of Resolution – “**Juvenile Detention Centers Week**”  
**Memo # 29**

I will be introducing a resolution declaring October 14-18, 2011 as Juvenile Detention Centers week throughout Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania has eighteen secure detention centers serving all 67 counties and the resolution will recognize their ongoing protection of our communities and the care of youth in their custody. These facilities provide 739 beds statewide for over 15,000 admissions to juvenile detention each year in the Commonwealth.

Pennsylvania’s Juvenile Detention Centers, contribute to public safety by providing a stable environment for at-risk youth both pre-adjudicated and adjudicated, providing education, programming, and ensuring sufficient opportunities for growth and development of Pennsylvania’s youth. Hundreds of youth care workers in detention facilities respond to youth who display an array of unresolved mental health, behavioral, educational and emotional issues and are dedicated to ensuring the proper care and supervision of these youth.

The Juvenile Detention Centers Association of Pennsylvania acts as the sole resource for these facilities offering education, representation, and support for all of the important services that juvenile detention centers provide for the Commonwealth’s youth and communities.

If you would like to co-sponsor this resolution, please contact Judy Merrill at [jmerrill@pasen.gov](mailto:jmerrill@pasen.gov) or at 717-787-6063.

KLW/vjw