

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 484

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress regarding
personal safety for children, and for other purposes.

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Whereas 840,279 individuals were reported missing in 2001, and 85 to 90 percent of these missing persons were children;

Whereas approximately 58,200 children were abducted by nonfamily members in 1999, often in connection with another crime;

Whereas 115 of all nonfamily abductions (those perpetrated by strangers) resulted in the child being kept overnight, held for ransom, or killed;

Whereas over 50 percent of the children kidnapped in non-family abductions were taken away from the street in a vehicle or from a park or wooded area;

Whereas a central element of the congressionally-mandated mission of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) is the prevention of child victimization;

Whereas the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, with the help of parents, local communities, and law enforcement, has assisted in the recovery of approximately 67,000 children;

Whereas the Departments of Justice, Health and Human Services, and Education recently developed a booklet, entitled “Personal Safety for Children”, which offers easy-to-read tips for parents to discuss safety and protection measures with their children;

Whereas parents and educators need to teach children about safety measures they can use to protect themselves against abduction and exploitation and to encourage them to be smart, strong, and safe; and

Whereas President George W. Bush plans to convene the first-ever White House Conference on Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children with policymakers, experts, community leaders, teachers, and law enforcement to discuss how to prevent the victimization of children: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That—

1 (1) it is the sense of the Congress that—

2 (A) Federal, State, and local law enforce-
3 ment agencies and communities should work to-
4 gether to prevent the victimization of children;
5 and

6 (B) communities, schools, and parents
7 should learn more about the steps that may be
8 taken to safeguard children and teach children
9 the skills they need to be safe; and

10 (2) the Congress recognizes the booklet, “Per-
11 sonal Safety for Children”, as one of the tools avail-
12 able to help parents and teachers talk with children
13 about personal safety.

Passed the House of Representatives October 1,
2002.

Attest:

Clerk.