



H.Res. 1142 – Recognizing May 25, 2008, as National Missing Children's Day

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1142 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Nick Lampson (D-TX) on April 23, 2008. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, but was not considered.

H.Res. 1142 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on May 19, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 1142 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Recognizes National Missing Children's Day and requests that all Americans join together to plan events in communities across America to raise public awareness about the issue of missing children and the need to address this national problem,
- Recognizes that one of the most important tools for law enforcement to use in the case of a missing child is an up-to-date, good quality photograph and urges all parents and guardians to follow this important precaution, and
- Acknowledges that National Missing Children's Day should remind Americans not to forget the children who are still missing and not to waver in the effort to reunite them with their families.

BACKGROUND

The United States Department of Justice reports that 797,500 were reported missing in a one-year time period. Of that number, 203,900 were abducted by family members, 58,200 were abducted by non-family members, and 115 children were victims of stereotypical kidnapping. The America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response Plan (AMBER) Alert program has been credited with the safe recovery of 374 children since it was established in 1997.

President Ronald Reagan established May 25 as National Missing Children's Day in 1983 and each year thereafter this date has been honored as a reminder to the nation to renew efforts to reunite missing children with their families and make child protection a national priority.

STAFF CONTACT

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