



## H.Res. 1260 – Supporting the goals and ideals of "National Internet Safety Month"

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### FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1260 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 Melissa Bean (D-IL) on June 10, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1260 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on July 9, 2008.

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### SUMMARY

H.Res. 1260 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Supports the goals and ideals of 'National Internet Safety Month';
- Recognizes that 'National Internet Safety Month' provides the citizens of the United States with an opportunity to learn more about the importance of being safe and responsible online;
- Commends and recognizes national and community organizations for--
  - Promoting the safe use of the Internet; and
  - Providing information and training that develops critical thinking and decision making skills that are needed to use the Internet safely; and
- Calls on parents, educators, Internet safety organizations, law enforcement, community leaders, Internet service providers, and volunteers to increase their efforts to raise the level of awareness for the need for online safety in the United States.

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### BACKGROUND

On May 22, 2008, the Senate passed a resolution designating June 2008 as 'National Internet Safety Month'. The goals of National Internet Safety Month are to raise awareness among Americans regarding the dangers of the Internet and the importance of responsible use of the Web.

There are over one billion Internet users worldwide, including over 35 million children in the United States. It is estimated that 93 percent of American middle- and high school students use the Internet, and most of these children also use online social networking websites such as MySpace or Facebook. Some social networking websites and online chat-rooms have led to sexual predators inappropriately connecting with minors. Additionally, approximately 43 percent of teens in the U.S. have reported being bullied over the Internet by other youth.

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### STAFF CONTACT

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