

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 257

To designate the period commencing on November 21, 1993, and ending on November 27, 1993, and the period commencing on November 20, 1994, and ending on November 26, 1994, each as "National Adoption Week".

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 8, 1993

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself, Mr. WOLF, Mr. HYDE, and Mr. EMERSON) introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service

JOINT RESOLUTION

To designate the period commencing on November 21, 1993, and ending on November 27, 1993, and the period commencing on November 20, 1994, and ending on November 26, 1994, each as "National Adoption Week".

Whereas Thanksgiving week has been commemorated as "National Adoption Week" for the past 15 years;

Whereas the Congress recognizes that belonging to a secure, loving, and permanent family is every child's right;

Whereas the President of the United States has actively promoted the benefits of adoption by implementing a Fed-

eral program to encourage Federal employees to consider adoption;

Whereas approximately thirty-six thousand children who may be characterized as having special needs such as being of school age, being members of a sibling group, being members of a minority group, or having physical, mental, and emotional disabilities are now in foster care or in institutions financed at public expense and are legally free for adoption;

Whereas public and private barriers inhibiting the placement of special needs children must be reviewed and removed where possible to assure their adoption;

Whereas the adoption of institutionalized or foster care children by capable parents into permanent homes would ensure an opportunity for their continued happiness and long-range well-being;

Whereas the public and prospective parents must be informed that there are children available for adoption;

Whereas media, agencies, adoptive parent and advocacy groups, civic and church groups, businesses, and industries will provide publicity and information to heighten community awareness of the crucial needs of children available for adoption; and

Whereas the recognition of Thanksgiving week as “National Adoption Week” is in the best interest of adoptable children and in the best interest of the public generally:
Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
- 2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 That the period commencing on November 21, 1993, and

1 ending on November 27, 1993, and the period commenc-
2 ing on November 20, 1994, and ending on November 26,
3 1994, are each designated as “National Adoption Week”,
4 and the President of the United States is authorized and
5 requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people
6 of the United States to observe each week with appro-
7 priate ceremonies and activities.

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