

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 309

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 16, 2000

Received and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and
Nutrition

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Congress with regard to in-school personal safety education programs for children.

Whereas there were more than 84,000 confirmed cases of sexual abuse in the United States in 1997 and 90 percent of the victims under 12 years old knew their offender;

Whereas 867,129 individuals were reported missing in 1999 and 85 to 90 percent of these missing persons were children;

Whereas according to Department of Justice research, there are approximately 114,000 nonfamily abductions in any one-year period;

Whereas a central element of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's (NCMEC) congressionally mandated mission is to prevent the victimization of children;

Whereas NCMEC examined the state of child safety education in the United States, focusing on what works and what does not;

Whereas nearly every primary and secondary school in the Nation conducts some sort of child safety education program, but NCMEC concluded that most such child safety programs were inadequate to promote personal safety for children;

Whereas guidelines, such as those developed by NCMEC, will help ensure that educators and child-serving organizations have the best possible tools and information to make decisions regarding child safety curriculum selection and development; and

Whereas child safety guidelines should be developed in collaboration with leading educational, public policy, and child-serving organizations and the NCMEC's guidelines have been endorsed and are supported by many such organizations: Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) it is the sense of the Congress that States
 4 should encourage their primary and secondary
 5 schools to implement quality child safety curricula so

1 that each child receives instruction that is positive,
2 comprehensive, and effective; and

3 (2) the Congress recognizes the National Center
4 for Missing and Exploited Children’s “Guidelines for
5 Programs to Reduce Child Victimization” as one of
6 the tools to guide the selection of quality child safety
7 programs when local schools develop such programs.
Passed the House of Representatives May 15, 2000.

Attest:

JEFF TRANDAHL,

Clerk.