

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 122

Designating April 30, 2009, as “Día de los Niños: Celebrating Young Americans”, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 30, 2009

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. NELSON of Florida, and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Designating April 30, 2009, as “Día de los Niños: Celebrating Young Americans”, and for other purposes.

Whereas many nations throughout the world, and especially within the Western hemisphere, celebrate “Día de los Niños”, or “Day of the Children”, on the 30th of April, in recognition and celebration of their country’s future—their children;

Whereas children represent the hopes and dreams of the people of the United States and are the center of American families;

Whereas children should be nurtured and invested in to preserve and enhance economic prosperity, democracy, and the American spirit;

Whereas according to the latest Census report, there are more than 44,000,000 individuals of Hispanic descent living in the United States, nearly 15,000,000 of whom are children;

Whereas Hispanics in the United States, the youngest and fastest growing ethnic community in the Nation, continue the tradition of honoring their children on Día de los Niños, and wish to share this custom with the rest of the Nation;

Whereas the primary teachers of family values, morality, and culture are parents and family members, and we rely on children to pass on these family values, morals, and culture to future generations;

Whereas the importance of literacy and education are most often communicated to children through family members;

Whereas families should be encouraged to engage in family and community activities that include extended and elderly family members and that encourage children to explore and develop confidence;

Whereas the designation of a day to honor the children of the United States will help affirm for the people of the United States the significance of family, education, and community;

Whereas the designation of a day of special recognition for the children of the United States will provide an opportunity for children to reflect on their future, to articulate their aspirations, and to find comfort and security in the support of their family members and communities;

Whereas the National Latino Children’s Institute, serving as a voice for children, has worked with cities throughout the Nation to declare April 30 as “Día de los Niños: Celebrating Young Americans”, a day to bring together Hispanics and other communities nationwide to celebrate and uplift children; and

Whereas the children of a nation are the responsibility of all its people, and people should be encouraged to celebrate the gifts of children to society: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates April 30, 2009, as “Día de los
3 Niños: Celebrating Young Americans”; and

4 (2) calls on the people of the United States to
5 join with all children, families, organizations, com-
6 munities, churches, cities, and States across the Na-
7 tion to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies,
8 including activities that—

9 (A) center around children, and are free or
10 minimal in cost so as to encourage and facili-
11 tate the participation of all our people;

12 (B) are positive and uplifting and that help
13 children express their hopes and dreams;

14 (C) provide opportunities for children of all
15 backgrounds to learn about one another’s cul-
16 tures and to share ideas;

17 (D) include all members of the family, es-
18 pecially extended and elderly family members,

1 so as to promote greater communication among
2 the generations within a family, enabling chil-
3 dren to appreciate and benefit from the experi-
4 ences and wisdom of their elderly family mem-
5 bers;

6 (E) provide opportunities for families with-
7 in a community to get acquainted; and

8 (F) provide children with the support they
9 need to develop skills and confidence, and to
10 find the inner strength and the will and fire of
11 the human spirit to make their dreams come
12 true.

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