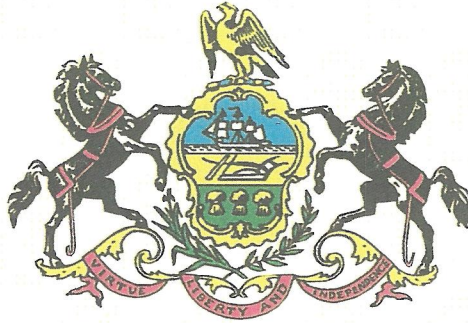


Senate of Pennsylvania



HARRISBURG, PA

In the Senate, September 23, 2013

Whereas, The ideal of peace encompasses the deepest hopes of all peoples and remains humanity's guiding inspiration; and

Whereas, This Commonwealth was founded by William Penn on the principles of peace, freedom and equality; and

Whereas, The United Nations believes in this same vision and works to promote the ideals and principles of peace and human rights across the globe; and

Whereas, In 1981, the United Nations General Assembly unanimously declared the International Day of Peace be "devoted to commemorating and strengthening the ideals of peace within and among all nations and peoples"; and

Whereas, In 2001, the United Nations unanimously established the United Nations International Day of Peace as September 21 to be observed each year in promotion of global ceasefire and nonviolence; and

Whereas, In 2009, the United States Senate passed S. Res. 274 (2009), a resolution expressing its support for the goals and ideals celebrated on Peace Day and for "continuing efforts to raise global awareness of the goals of Peace Day and to engage all sectors of society in the peaceful observance of the International Day of Peace"; and

Whereas, On September 21, 2013, people in cities across the world came together through diverse peace education activities, nonviolence skill-building, music, marches, spiritual activities, arts projects, community events, environmental efforts and intercultural dialogues, all for the purpose of forwarding a culture of peace; and

Whereas, Peace Day observances are wide ranging, with many organizations and cities across this Commonwealth, from Philadelphia to Pittsburgh, creating practical acts of peace for our citizens to further understand and actively participate in a movement of nonviolence; and

Whereas, The Peace Day Philly initiative encouraged the active and meaningful participation in the International Day of Peace and provided a platform across the Philadelphia region and beyond for more than 25 peace-related events for Peace Day 2013; and

Whereas, On September 21 at 12 noon in all time zones, people of all nationalities and religions observed a minute of silence, as put forth by Pathways to Peace, the nonprofit, nonpartisan organization instrumental in the first United Nations resolution in support of Peace Day, and as encouraged by the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon; and

Whereas, The United Nations' theme for Peace Day 2013 was "Education For Peace"; and

Whereas, It has been stated by the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, "It is not enough to teach children how to read, write and count. Education has to cultivate mutual respect for others and the world in which we live, and help people forge more just, inclusive and peaceful societies"; and

Whereas, Conflict resolution and transformation, mediation, mindfulness training and many other skill-based aspects of peace education, as well as intercultural dialogue and other forms of diversity and global awareness activities, are critical to the development of peace-building skills and global citizenship among children and youth; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate express its support for the goals and ideals celebrated worldwide on September 21, 2013, and encourage and commend all citizens of this Commonwealth who actively promote and participate in diverse peace, nonviolence and unity-building activities in observance of the International Day of Peace.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Senate Resolution No. 186, introduced by Senators Lawrence M. Farnese, Jr., Andrew E. Dinniman, Jim Ferlo, LeAnna M. Washington, Stewart J. Greenleaf, Edwin B. Erickson, Michael J. Stack, Wayne D. Fontana, Mike Brubaker, Judith L. Schwank, Patrick M. Browne, Jay Costa, Dominic Pileggi, Jim Brewster and Lisa M. Boscola, and adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania the twenty-third day of September, in the year of our Lord, two thousand thirteen.

Attest:



Megan Concedine
Megan Tolino Concedine, Secretary