A RESOLUTION

Recognizing September 21, 2018, as "International Day of Peace"; expressing support of its ideals and principles; and encouraging Pennsylvanians to meaningfully engage at this worldwide event.

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, The United Nations' "International Day of Peace," ("Peace Day") established in 1981, offers a global opportunity on September 21 to "commemorate and strengthen the ideals of peace within and among all nations and peoples" and to take meaningful and practical action for peace; and

WHEREAS, On September 21, individuals, organizations and governments come together through engaging in diverse "Peace
Day activities related to the arts, the environment, education, global and intercultural topics, spirituality and faith, health and nonviolence; and

WHEREAS, Meaningful engagement in "Peace Day" contributes to creating a culture of peace; and

WHEREAS, "Peace Day Philly," an NGO affiliated with the United Nations, is the Philadelphia region initiative for the International Day of Peace and promotes, collaborates on and offers wide-ranging programs related to personal, local and global peace during the week in which "Peace Day" falls; and

WHEREAS, In 2018, "Peace Day Philly" features:

(1) a talk on economics, peace and human rights;
(2) a "Peace Day" concert with members of the Philadelphia Orchestra, benefiting refugees;
(3) "Peace Day" gathering with reflections on personal, local and global peace, music and the minute of silence at 12 noon, which takes place across the world in all time zones; and

WHEREAS, "Peace Day" activities take place not only in the Philadelphia region, but in cities and towns across this Commonwealth, nation and world; and

WHEREAS, The universal statement shared at "Peace Day" events, "May Peace Prevail on Earth," brings together individuals of all faiths, backgrounds and cultures; and

WHEREAS, The 2018 global "Peace Day" theme is "The Right to Peace - The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70," which celebrates the 70th anniversary of this milestone document in the history of human rights; and

WHEREAS, The United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres states that, "it is time all nations and all people
live up to the words of the Universal Declaration of Human
Rights, which recognizes the inherent dignity and equal and
inalienable rights of all members of the human race; therefore
be it
RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize September 21, 2018, as
"International Day of Peace," express support for its ideals and
principles and encourage Pennsylvanians to meaningfully engage
at this worldwide event.