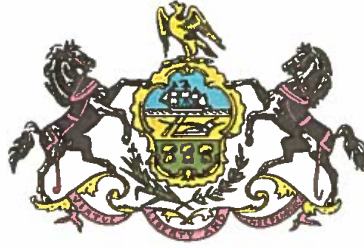


Senate of Pennsylvania



HARRISBURG, PA

In the Senate, September 17, 2015

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," established in 1981, offers an annual opportunity on September 21 for countries, cities, states, communities and individuals to "commemorate and strengthen the ideals of peace within and among all nations and peoples"; and

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

Whereas, In 2009, the United States Senate passed Senate Resolution No. 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, 2015, people in cities across the world come together through diverse peace education activities, nonviolent 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, "International Day of Peace" 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, Peace Day Philly, a Philadelphia-region initiative that encourages broad-based participation in the "International Day of Peace," calls upon all public officials, organizations, neighborhoods, community groups and individuals to actively engage in this global day of local opportunity; and

Whereas, In 2014, more than 30 diverse peace-related events took place across the region from September 15 through September 21, and additional peace, community-building, safety and youth activities were organized in neighborhoods across the city by the Philadelphia Police Department; and

Whereas, On September 21 at 12 noon in all time zones, people of all nationalities and religions will observe a minute of silence for peace; and

Whereas, The United Nations' global theme for "International Day of Peace" 2015 is "Partnerships for Peace - Dignity for All"; and

Whereas, This global theme recognizes the essential role that civil society and nongovernmental organizations have played in the United Nations' peace-building activities and the work of the United Nations for more than 70 years to promote and create conditions for universal human rights and dignity for all people; and

Whereas, The United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called upon, in his 100-day countdown statement, for "the people of the world to reaffirm their commitment to living in harmony as members of a single human family" and for citizens to "stand with the millions of people across the world who are suffering the devastating impact of violence and conflict"; 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 recognize September 21, 2015, as "International Day of Peace" and express its support for the goals and ideals celebrated worldwide on September 21, 2015, and encourage and commend all residents 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. 181, introduced by Senators Lawrence M. Farnese, Jr., Andrew E. Dinniman, Shirley M. Kitchen, John P. Sabatino, Jr., Christine M. Tartaglione, Stewart J. Greenleaf, Bob Menoch, Jay Costa, Jim Brewster, Judith L. Schwank, Wayne D. Fontana, John C. Rafferty, Jr., Randy Tulakovich and John F. Yudichak, and adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania the seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord, two thousand fifteen.

Attest:



Megan Martin
Megan Martin, Secretary