

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing September 21, 2017, as "International Day of Peace";
2 expressing support of its ideals and principles; and
3 encouraging Pennsylvanians to meaningfully engage at this
4 worldwide event.

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

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

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

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

17 WHEREAS, On September 21, individuals, organizations and
18 governments come together through engaging in diverse "Peace

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

6 WHEREAS, "Peace Day Philly," the Philadelphia-region
7 initiative that encourages broad-based participation in "Peace
8 Day," promotes and offers wide-ranging programs related to
9 personal, local and global peace during the week in which "Peace
10 Day" falls; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2017, "Peace Day Philly" features:

- 12 (1) youth peacebuilder training;
- 13 (2) talks and workshops related to:
 - 14 (i) refugees globally and locally;
 - 15 (ii) combating discrimination and racism;
 - 16 (iii) mindfulness and activism; and
 - 17 (iv) the state of global peacefulness;
- 18 (3) peace crane folding;
- 19 (4) a student march;
- 20 (5) a climate change film;
- 21 (6) peace concerts;
- 22 (7) art exhibitions; and
- 23 (8) multicultural events;

24 and

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

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

4 treat the refugees of the world with respect and compassion; and
5 WHEREAS, The United Nations Secretary-General Antonio
6 Guterres asks the world, on "Peace Day" and beyond, to "remember
7 that millions of vulnerable members of our society, many of whom
8 have lost everything, need our understanding and assistance";
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Secretary-General Guterres also reminds us, in his
11 100-day "Countdown to International Day of Peace" message, that
12 "our duty as a human family is to replace fear with kindness";
13 therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize September 21, 2017, as
15 "International Day of Peace"; express support for its ideals and
16 principles; and encourage Pennsylvanians to meaningfully engage
17 at this worldwide event.