

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2017-4612, by Representative Klippert

1 WHEREAS, National Missing Children's Day was first observed in
2 1983, following a proclamation by President Ronald Reagan; and

3 WHEREAS, May 25, 2017, will be the 34th National Missing
4 Children's Day; and

5 WHEREAS, National Missing Children's Day honors our nation's
6 obligation to locate and recover missing children by prompting
7 parents, guardians, and other trusted adult role models to make child
8 safety an utmost priority; and

9 WHEREAS, In the United States, nearly 800,000 children are
10 reported missing each year, more than 58,000 children are abducted by
11 nonfamily members each year, and more than 2,000 children are
12 reported missing every day; and

13 WHEREAS, Congress' efforts to provide resources, training, and
14 technical assistance has increased the capability of state and local
15 law enforcement to find children and return them home safely; and

16 WHEREAS, The 1979 disappearance of 6 year old Etan Patz served as
17 the impetus for the first proclamation of National Missing Children's
18 Day in 1983; and

19 WHEREAS, Etan's photo was distributed nationwide and appeared in
20 media globally, and the powerful image came to represent the anguish
21 of thousands of searching families;

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives
23 support the observation of National Missing Children's Day and

1 encourage all Americans to join together to plan events in
2 communities across America to raise public awareness about the issue
3 of missing children and the need to address this national problem;
4 and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives
6 recognize that one of the most important tools for law enforcement to
7 use in the case of a missing child is an up-to-date, good quality
8 photograph and urge all parents and guardians to take this important
9 precaution; and

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives
11 acknowledge that National Missing Children's Day should remind
12 Americans not to forget the children who are still missing and not to
13 waver in the effort to reunite them with their families.

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15 I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
16 Resolution 4612 adopted by the House of Representatives
17 February 8, 2017

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Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk