



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

House Resolution No. 11

LCO No. 3119



Referred to Committee on
CHILDREN

Introduced by:
(KID)

**RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS
TO RATIFY THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS
OF THE CHILD.**

Resolved by this House:

- 1 WHEREAS, the future of the world lies with our children; and
- 2 WHEREAS, the health and welfare of children is the key to a future
3 world worth living in; and
- 4 WHEREAS, children are often considered the world's most
5 neglected resource; and
- 6 WHEREAS, children, as the most vulnerable people in the world,
7 are entitled to special care and assistance; and
- 8 WHEREAS, every child is entitled to the fundamental rights and
9 necessities of life, including food, clothing, shelter, health care and
10 education as well as freedom from abuse, neglect, exploitation and
11 discrimination; and
- 12 WHEREAS, children's rights require special protection and there is

13 a pressing need for continuous improvement of the situation of
14 children all over the world and for their development and education in
15 conditions of peace and security; and

16 WHEREAS, the situation of children in many parts of the world
17 remains critical as a result of inadequate social conditions, natural
18 disasters, armed conflicts, exploitation, illiteracy, hunger and
19 disability; and

20 WHEREAS, effective national and international action is called for;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, an international convention on the rights of the child
23 would make a positive contribution to protecting children's rights and
24 ensuring their well-being; and

25 WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly approved the
26 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child on November
27 20, 1989; and

28 WHEREAS, this approval brought to fruition a sixty-five-year
29 campaign for formal international legal recognition of the human
30 rights of children; and

31 WHEREAS, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the
32 Child is a unique human rights treaty in that it protects not only the
33 child's civil and political rights but also extends protection to the
34 child's economic, social and cultural rights and humanitarian rights;
35 and

36 WHEREAS, at least five states, the National Governors Association,
37 nine cities and numerous respected organizations, across a wide swath
38 of the political spectrum, have passed resolutions in support of the
39 Convention; and

40 WHEREAS, one hundred ninety-three nations have already ratified
41 the Convention; and

42 WHEREAS, the United States formally signed the Convention in
43 1995, signifying its intent to ratify the Convention; and

44 WHEREAS, the United States and Somalia are the only two nations
45 that are members of the United Nations that have not ratified the
46 Convention; and

47 WHEREAS, it is imperative that the President of the United States
48 and the Senate of the United States join international leaders in
49 supporting the Convention to give impetus to programs that benefit
50 the health and welfare of children in this state, this country and the
51 world; and

52 WHEREAS, the United States, as a leader in the world militarily and
53 politically, should also be a leader in protecting the children of the
54 world and in exhibiting the true quality of humanitarian leadership.

55 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Connecticut House
56 of Representatives respectfully memorializes the Congress of the
57 United States to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of
58 the Child, with appropriate reservations where it is in conflict with
59 United States law; and

60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent
61 to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United
62 States, the Secretary of State, each member of the Connecticut
63 congressional delegation and the Secretary General of the United
64 Nations.