

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 7

A JOINT RESOLUTION designating October 11 of each year as the "Day of the Girl" in New Jersey.

WHEREAS, In 2000, the United Nations adopted the Millennium Development Goals; and

WHEREAS, The eight Millennium Development Goals form a blueprint agreed upon by 189 countries and the world's leading development institutions to eliminate global poverty by 2015, and implement policies that encourage sustained economic development in the world's poorest countries; and

WHEREAS, The third goal seeks to promote gender equality and empower women by eliminating gender disparity in primary and secondary education, and supporting universal access to education for girls throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, In order to meet this goal, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 66/170 in December 2011, to declare October 11 of each year as the "International Day of the Girl Child"; and

WHEREAS, The resolution, which was co-sponsored by the United States and supported by 97 other countries, recognizes girls' rights and the unique social, economic, and educational challenges girls under the age of 18 encounter around the world; and

WHEREAS, In order to promote the United Nations' efforts, the Day of the Girl campaign was established by School Girls Unite, a non-profit organization located in Washington D.C.; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of the campaign is to encourage communities across the country to recognize the many injustices faced by girls around the world, including gender gaps in education, child marriage, human trafficking, female mutilation, and other forms of gender-specific violence; and

WHEREAS, The campaign also empowers girls to learn to fight for their human rights, speak out against gender-based inequities, and advocate for equality, so girls in the United States and worldwide can pursue their dreams; and

WHEREAS, The establishment of October 11 as the "Day of the Girl" will raise public awareness about the "International Day of the Girl Child" and galvanize the support of the citizens of, and community-based organizations in, the State to help better girls' lives and provide them with equal opportunities to reach their full potential; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

C.36:2-438 "Day of the Girl" designated, October 11.

1. October 11 of each year is designated as the "Day of the Girl" in New Jersey to raise public awareness about the "International Day of the Girl Child" and galvanize the support of the citizens of, and community-based organizations in, the State to help better girls' lives and provide them with equal opportunities to reach their full potential.

C.36:2-439 Annual proclamation.

2. The Governor is respectfully requested to annually issue a proclamation recognizing October 11 as the "Day of the Girl" in New Jersey and calling upon public officials, the citizens of the State, and other interested groups to observe the day with appropriate activities and programs.

3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

Approved May 15, 2023.