

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 254

Recognizing the “Code Adam” child safety program, commending retail businesses and public establishments that have implemented programs to protect children from an abduction or lost scenario, and urging retail businesses and public establishments that have not implemented such programs to consider doing so.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2003

Mr. PALLONE (for himself, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. FROST, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. ROTHSCHILD, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, and Mr. WEXLER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the “Code Adam” child safety program, commending retail businesses and public establishments that have implemented programs to protect children from an abduction or lost scenario, and urging retail businesses and public establishments that have not implemented such programs to consider doing so.

Whereas protecting children is one of society’s greatest responsibilities;

Whereas child abduction, an unconscionable and horrendous crime, has received much media attention;

Whereas parents, and all other adults, must be ever vigilant in public places to protect children, who by their very nature are trusting and unsuspecting, from those depraved and vile individuals who would prey on them;

Whereas recognizing the risk of child abduction, some retail businesses, libraries, museums, hospitals, and other public and private establishments have developed safety procedures and programs designed to prevent abductors from using crowds of people as cover for nefarious acts;

Whereas one of the most successful programs to prevent child abduction is the “Code Adam” alarm developed in 1994 and implemented by Wal-Mart stores and SAM’S Clubs throughout the Nation;

Whereas the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children has been instrumental in helping to implement the “Code Adam” child safety program at retail and businesses and public establishments; and

Whereas, named in tribute to 6-year-old Adam Walsh who was abducted from a shopping mall in the State of Florida and murdered in 1981, the “Code Adam” alarm signals that there is a missing child and alerts designated employees in the affected retail business, public establishment or library to abandon their normal responsibilities and, in a coordinated and prearranged organized manner, to begin searching for the child and monitoring the establishment exits to ensure that the child is not removed from the establishment: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives recog-
- 2 nizes the “Code Adam” child safety program, commends
- 3 all retail businesses and public establishments that have
- 4 implemented such programs to protect children from an

- 1 abduction or lost scenario, and urges retail business and
- 2 public establishments that have not implemented such pro-
- 3 grams to consider doing so.

