

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing the week of March 15, 2015 as "National Safe Place Week."

MERRITT

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION recognizing the week of March
2 15, 2015 as "National Safe Place Week."

3 *Whereas, The youth of Indiana will determine the future*
4 *strength of our country and accordingly need a safe haven from*
5 *various negative influences, such as child abuse, substance*
6 *abuse, depression, and crime;*

7 *Whereas, Today's youth also need readily available*
8 *resources to assist them when faced with circumstances that*
9 *compromise their safety;*

10 *Whereas, The Safe Place program is committed to*
11 *protecting the youth of Indiana by offering short-term housing*
12 *at locations where trained volunteers are available to counsel*
13 *and advise young people seeking assistance and guidance;*

14 *Whereas, Safe Place notably provides locations where*
15 *youth can get information and immediate care as well and is*
16 *found at businesses, such as restaurants, convenience stores,*
17 *and movie theaters, and community buildings such as fire*
18 *stations, libraries, and community centers;*



1 *Whereas, The success of Safe Place is based on*
2 *public/private collaborations between businesses, school*
3 *systems, public safety entities, and a network of volunteers;*

4 *Whereas, To meet the demand for these services, Indiana*
5 *needs increased numbers of community volunteers to serve as*
6 *mentors and positive influences on young people, and Safe*
7 *Place must continue to meet performance standards to receive*
8 *direct federal assistance as set forth in the Runaway and*
9 *Homeless Youth Act;*

10 *Whereas, Overall, more than 1,500 communities in 39*
11 *states administer the Safe Place program at more than 19,000*
12 *locations, and more than 300,000 youth have been assisted at*
13 *a Safe Place location or have received counseling by phone as*
14 *a result of Safe Place information received at a school;*

15 *Whereas, Furthermore, since the program's inception in*
16 *1983, more than 11 million youth have been reached through*
17 *National Safe Place's Building a Safety Net for Youth*
18 *campaign, familiarizing them with the Safe Place sign and*
19 *providing them with information about how to seek help; and*

20 *Whereas, Increased awareness will encourage more*
21 *communities to establish Safe Place locations where youth can*
22 *readily access the help they need: Therefore,*

23 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*
24 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

25 SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate recognizes the week of
26 March 15 through March 22, 2015, as "National Safe Place Week," and
27 calls upon the people of Indiana and interested groups to promote
28 awareness of, and volunteer involvement in, the Safe Place program.

29 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
30 transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Indiana Youth Services
31 Association.

