



HR0552

LRB098 12747 KTG 47230 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, On November 20, 1989, the United Nations General
3 Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child
4 (Convention) to promote basic human rights for all children;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, The Convention aims to protect children from
7 discrimination, neglect, and abuse by establishing a full range
8 of civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights; and

9 WHEREAS, With the exception of the United States, South
10 Sudan, and Somalia, every other member state of the United
11 Nations - 193 countries - have ratified and accepted the
12 Convention; and

13 WHEREAS, Although the United States had considerable
14 influence in the drafting of the Convention and subsequently
15 signed it on February 16, 1995, the Convention has never been
16 presented to the U.S. Senate for advise and consent - the
17 necessary and final step to U.S. ratification; and

18 WHEREAS, Without U.S. Senate approval, the Convention has
19 no effect on children living in the United States, thereby
20 leaving them without the protections contained within this
21 important treaty; and

1 WHEREAS, President Obama has previously called the United
2 States' failure to ratify the Convention "embarrassing" and
3 promised to conduct an internal review of this matter;
4 therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
6 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
7 we urge President Obama to submit the U.N. Convention on the
8 Rights of the Child to the U.S. Senate for its advice and
9 consent without delay, and further call on the U.S. Senate to
10 move swiftly to approve the Convention.