

Illinois Governor Pat Quinn Again Sets June 9 as “Children’s Day”

Petition at WhiteHouse.Gov (wh.gov/zKoN) for the President to Proclaim the Da

Immediate Release

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Will the President and other governors and mayors join Illinois Governor Pat Quinn in proclaiming Sunday, June 9, 2013, as “Children’s Day”?

Since 2007 and again this year, the governor of the state of Illinois has proclaimed “Children’s Day” on the second Sunday in June. Also such cities as Aurora, Ill.; Batavia, Ill.; Fort Collins, Colo.; and Vancouver, Wash.; have issued past proclamations.

John Ross, advocate for Children’s Day and part of a growing movement spear-headed by the website, www.nationalchildrensday.us, expressed his hope for further expansion of the day.

“I am so pleased with the response of Governor Pat Quinn in his proclamation. The ongoing work of individuals, churches, and organizations for the day speaks volumes to its potential in 2013 for state and local proclamations and beyond.

“This year we are petitioning President Obama at <http://wh.gov/zKoN> to proclaim Children’s Day. The petition needs to get 100,000 signatures by June 3, 2013, the White House will then review it and respond. Those 13 and older can participate in the petition drive.

“This national petition drive is a difficult task and we are trying to spread the word. Still, I am hopeful for more proclamations this year and even from the President.”

Children’s Day observations in the United States predate both Mother’s and Father’s Day. The day to celebrate children dates from the 1860s and earlier. The Methodist Episcopal Church at the Methodist Conference of 1868 recommended that the second Sunday in June be observed annually as Children’s Day. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in 1883 designated the “the second Sabbath in June as Children’s Day.”

Chase’s Calendar of Events cites Children’s Sunday and notes that The Commonwealth of Massachusetts issues an annual proclamation for the second Sunday in June.

Numerous churches and denominations currently observe the second Sunday in June including the African Methodist Episcopal Church, African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, and the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Children's Day website, www.nationalchildrensday.us, offers helps and also challenges parents, individuals, churches/houses of worship, schools/places of education, government/community and businesses to sign commitment cards directed at affirming America's children. They pledge to "commit myself (ourselves), in the coming year, to love, cherish, nurture (physical, mental, emotional, & spiritual needs), and affirm..." They can also make a commitment beyond America to the world's children.

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Mission Statement of NationalChildrensDay.us: Promote Children's Day in America.



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