

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. RES. \_\_\_\_\_

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the President of the United States must immediately establish an interagency Office for Locating and Reuniting Children with Parents in order to protect separated children from suffering additional trauma resulting from the “Zero Tolerance” policy.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. CASEY, Ms. HASSAN, and Mr. CARPER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the Senate that the President of the United States must immediately establish an interagency Office for Locating and Reuniting Children with Parents in order to protect separated children from suffering additional trauma resulting from the “Zero Tolerance” policy.

Whereas families belong together, and innocent children must be quickly and safely reunited with their parents who are seeking asylum;

Whereas children and parents are separated between 3 different Federal agencies and remain in an indefinite

logistical chaos partly due to inadequate interagency communication; and

Whereas the Department of Health and Human Services has currently identified 2,047 children in the Department's custody as a result of being taken away from their parents: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

2               (1) the Secretary of Homeland Security, the At-  
3       torney General, and the Secretary of Health and  
4       Human Services must immediately establish an  
5       interagency Office for Locating and Reuniting Chil-  
6       dren with Parents;

7               (2) the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-  
8       ices must appoint a Director for the Office to ensure  
9       the successful and safe reunification of children with  
10      their parents; and

11              (3) the Office must move with extraordinary  
12      speed and urgency to safely reunify children with  
13      their parents.