

## 1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Everyday, children are abducted from places  
3 presumed safe, such as neighborhoods and bedrooms; when a  
4 child's life, liberty, or innocence is taken, it is a  
5 terrible loss not just for the immediate family, but for the  
6 entire community; and

7 WHEREAS, It is vitally important to have notification  
8 systems in place that are effective and operational when a  
9 child is abducted; the AMBER alert system is one such system;  
10 since the AMBER alert program began in the Dallas, Texas area  
11 in 1996, AMBER has been credited with successfully recovering  
12 33 children; and

13 WHEREAS, Under the AMBER alert system, when law  
14 enforcement concludes that a child is missing, officials  
15 immediately send alerts to radio and television stations with  
16 descriptions of the missing children, their abductors, and  
17 other pertinent information; and

18 WHEREAS, On August 2, 2002, two kidnapped California  
19 teenagers were safely rescued as a result of the Amber Alert  
20 program; and

21 WHEREAS, September is a time when many children return to  
22 school; therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
24 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
25 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that in order to enhance awareness  
26 about existing child safety programs as well as provide the  
27 focus and motivation for improving child protection, we  
28 declare the week of September 1-7, 2003 to be AMBER ALERT  
29 Week.