

By: Representative Rose

HOUSE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE COLLEEN NICK AND THE MORGAN NICK FOUNDATION ON THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KIDNAPPING OF MORGAN NICK FOR THEIR TIRELESS EFFORTS IN THE PREVENTION AND RECOVERY OF MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN AND IN APPRECIATION OF THEIR ASSISTANCE TO FAMILIES OF MISSING CHILDREN.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE COLLEEN NICK AND THE MORGAN NICK FOUNDATION ON THE THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KIDNAPPING OF MORGAN NICK.

WHEREAS, on June 9, 1995, six-year-old Morgan Chauntel Nick was kidnapped from a little league baseball game in Alma, Arkansas, and a massive state and federal law enforcement investigation ensued and continues, as Morgan Nick remains missing; and

WHEREAS, June 9, 2025, will mark the thirtieth anniversary of the kidnapping and disappearance of Morgan Nick; and

WHEREAS, Morgan's mother, Colleen Nick, formed the Morgan Nick Foundation in 1996 and serves as full-time Executive Director of the foundation; and

WHEREAS, the Morgan Nick Foundation believes that to reduce the number of child abductions, children must be educated and empowered with the skills



necessary to protect themselves from the dangers of abduction, and the foundation is proactive in offering prevention education programs for children, communities, and schools; and

WHEREAS, the Morgan Nick Foundation strives to be an organization recognized by the public and law enforcement as a leading resource in the prevention and recovery of missing and exploited children; and

WHEREAS, through Colleen Nick's outstanding leadership, the foundation assists thousands of families in crisis and successfully provides intervention, support, and reunification to children and their families; and

WHEREAS, for years, the Arkansas State Police has partnered with the Morgan Nick Foundation, which has been instrumental in countless investigations and has directly contributed to the safe recovery of missing and exploited children and the combatting of human trafficking in Arkansas; and

WHEREAS, beyond investigative assistance, the Morgan Nick Foundation works with the Arkansas State Police in prevention and training efforts, ensuring officers are equipped with the latest techniques and knowledge to handle child abduction and exploitation cases, and the foundation's role in community engagement and education further strengthens Arkansas's overall approach to safeguarding children; and

WHEREAS, since the 2024 formation of the VALOR Group (which stands for Victory through Advocacy, Law Enforcement, Outreach, and Recovery) composed of members of the Arkansas Human Trafficking Council, the Morgan Nick Foundation has provided the Arkansas State Police with critical investigative assistance, training, and networking expertise that has directly contributed to the success of Arkansas State Police operations; and

WHEREAS, in January 2025 alone, with the support of the Morgan Nick Foundation, the Arkansas State Police successfully recovered sixteen (16) missing children in Arkansas, and in 2024, this partnership resulted in the recovery of eighty-two (82) children; and

WHEREAS, Colleen Nick was instrumental in the adoption of the Morgan Nick AMBER Alert in Arkansas, making Arkansas the third state in the nation to have a statewide child abduction alert system in place; and

WHEREAS, Colleen Nick is a nationally recognized spokesperson and advocate for missing children and has spoken at the FBI Academy on Marine Corps Base Quantico in Virginia, the National Homicide Investigators Association Training Conference, and at National Missing Children's Day with former United States Attorney General Janet Reno; and

WHEREAS, Colleen Nick was invited to meet with former President George W. Bush and former First Lady Laura Bush at the White House Conference on Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children in 2002 to explore new resources in the ongoing fight to recover missing children and prevent child abductions; and

WHEREAS, Colleen Nick serves as an independent consultant with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and she travels the nation training law enforcement about the issue of missing and exploited children; and

WHEREAS, Colleen Nick is a co-creator of Team HOPE, a support program for families of the missing, at the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children; and

WHEREAS, Colleen Nick's passion and steadfast hope motivates her daily to fight for America's missing children and she continues to work with countless dedicated people to make a difference, one child at a time,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives recognize Colleen Nick and the Morgan Nick Foundation on the thirtieth anniversary of the kidnapping of Morgan Nick

for their tireless efforts in the prevention and recovery of missing and exploited children and appreciate their assistance to families of missing children.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be presented to Colleen Nick by the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives.