

**National**  
**Children's Day**  
"expanding across America"

www.nationalchildrensday.us

**Celebrating Children • They're God's Gift**  
The Second Sunday in June

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05/04/06 Time: 5:00 p.m.

For Immediate Release

For News and/or Community and/or Religion Editor(s)

**Illinois House Passes Resolution Promoting June 11 as *Children's Day***

- A spark for a national movement

**Springfield, Ill., May 4, 2006 (*The Religion Wire™*)** — On Wednesday, May 3, 2006,

the Illinois House passed a resolution declaring **June 11, 2006 (the second Sunday in**

**June) as Children's Day.** The chief legislative sponsor of HR1158 was State Rep.

Linda Chapa LaVia, D-Aurora.

"I am real happy that Representative LaVia and her staff took the time and effort to see a resolution on **Children's Day** pass the Illinois House. This may be the spark that helps spread the need for a special day for our children to the nation. Children are a precious gift from God and they need our affirmation, protection, prayers, and love," notes John Ross, founder of [www.nationchildrensday.us](http://www.nationchildrensday.us) and an advocate for a national **Children's Day.**

What's **Children's Day**? A forgotten holiday. Today, only a few churches, denominations, and individuals celebrate the day. But still, **Children's Day** observations in the United States predate both Mother's and Father's Day. This day dates from the 1880s and earlier. Massachusetts has legislation mandating a proclamation.

Ross feels "that now more than ever, children need a special day. I'm hopeful that individuals, churches, denominations, media, businesses, government, and organizations can help spread the support for a national **Children's Day on the second Sunday in June.**"

For the last 14 years he has been involved with a June children's festival, *Celebrate Our Children*, in Aurora, Ill. (see [www.celebrateourchildren.us](http://www.celebrateourchildren.us)).

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