

As Offered

**131st General Assembly
Regular Session
2015-2016**

H. R. No. 71

Representative Cupp

A RESOLUTION

Recognizing CASA Day in Ohio, April 30, 2015.

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 131st General Assembly of Ohio are pleased to recognize April 30, 2015, as Court Appointed Special Advocates Day in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Every child deserves a nurturing family and a safe environment, free from fear, abuse, and neglect. However, tens of thousands of children in Ohio are threatened by abuse and neglect every day, some so severely that the courts intervene for their safety. These children are our most vulnerable citizens, and more than 14,000 new cases of child abuse and neglect are filed in the court system each year; and

WHEREAS, To represent abused and neglected children in court proceedings and advocate for their best interests, more than 2,000 trained volunteers in Ohio serve as court appointed special advocates and guardians ad litem. Research shows that children who are assigned to CASA/GAL volunteers spend less time in the court system and in foster care, are more likely to find permanent homes, and are less likely to enter the child welfare system than those without such support. Ohio CASA assists local CASA/GAL programs and volunteers and has earned the respect and gratitude of many; and

WHEREAS, CASA Day in Ohio recognizes the important work of CASA/GAL volunteers, calls attention to the need for more CASA/GAL volunteers, and encourages support of the CASA program. Since its inception, Ohio CASA has achieved a

praiseworthy record of service, and we are certain that in the years to come, this worthy agency will continue in the tradition of excellence that has become its hallmark; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 131st General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, recognize April 30, 2015, as Court Appointed Special Advocates Day in Ohio; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit duly authenticated copies of this Resolution to Ohio Court Appointed Special Advocates and to the news media of Ohio.