

107TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. CON. RES. 393

Expressing the sense of Congress that the Nation should take additional steps to ensure the prevention of teen pregnancy by engaging in measures to educate teenagers as to why they should stop and think about the negative consequences before engaging in premature sexual activity.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 1, 2002

Mrs. CLAYTON (for herself, Mr. CASTLE, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. SHAYS, and Mr. CAMP) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that the Nation should take additional steps to ensure the prevention of teen pregnancy by engaging in measures to educate teenagers as to why they should stop and think about the negative consequences before engaging in premature sexual activity.

Whereas 4 in 10 girls in the United States will become pregnant before the age of 20;

Whereas childbearing by teenagers costs taxpayers at least \$7,000,000,000 each year in direct costs associated with health care, foster care, criminal justice, and public assistance;

Whereas the United States has the highest rates of teenage pregnancy and birth in the industrialized world;

Whereas more than half of all mothers on welfare had their first child as a teenager;

Whereas 80 percent of births to teenagers are to unmarried teenagers, and teenage mothers have more children, on average, than women who delay childbearing, which makes it more difficult for them and their children to escape a life of poverty;

Whereas teenagers who give birth are less likely to complete high school and to go on to college, thereby reducing their potential for economic self-sufficiency; and

Whereas the children of teenage mothers are more likely to be born prematurely and at low birth-weight, and suffer from higher rates of abuse and neglect than other children: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*  
 2   *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that the Na-  
 3 tion should take additional steps to ensure the prevention  
 4 of teen pregnancy by engaging in measures to educate  
 5 teenagers as to why they should stop and think about the  
 6 negative consequences before engaging in premature sex-  
 7 ual activity.

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