

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 441

Supporting responsible fatherhood and encouraging greater involvement of fathers in the lives of their children, especially on Father's Day.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 11, 2002

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. PITTS, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. TURNER, Mr. SOUDER, and Mr. RYUN of Kansas) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

RESOLUTION

Supporting responsible fatherhood and encouraging greater involvement of fathers in the lives of their children, especially on Father's Day.

Whereas children with fathers at home tend to do better in school, to be less prone to depression, and to have more successful relationships;

Whereas boys and girls alike demonstrate greater self-control and ability to take initiative when fathers are actively involved in their upbringing;

Whereas promoting responsible fatherhood can help increase the chances that children will grow up with two caring parents;

Whereas a broad array of America's leading family and child-development experts agree that it is in the best interests

of children, and the Nation as a whole, to encourage more two-parent, father-involved families;

Whereas in a study of fathers' interaction with their children in intact two-parent families, nearly 90 percent of the fathers surveyed said that being a father is the most fulfilling role a man can have;

Whereas according to a 1996 Gallup poll, 90.3 percent of Americans agree that fathers make a unique contribution to their children's lives;

Whereas a study of first-grade boys and their married parents found that fathers who participated more in childcare had sons who were more empathetic than sons whose fathers did not participate often in childcare;

Whereas married fathers are more likely to have a close, enduring relationship with their children than unmarried fathers;

Whereas the promotion of responsible fatherhood is a bipartisan issue; and

Whereas Father's Day is the third Sunday in June: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) urges men to understand the level of re-
3 sponsibility fathering a child requires, especially in
4 the encouragement of the academic, moral, and spir-
5 itual development of children;

6 (2) recognizes the need to encourage active in-
7 volvement of fathers in the rearing and development
8 of their children;

1 (3) encourages each father to devote time, en-
2 ergy, and resources to his children, recognizing that
3 children need not only material support, but even
4 more importantly, a secure and nurturing family en-
5 vironment;

6 (4) commends the millions of fathers who serve
7 as wonderful, caring parents for their children, while
8 also recognizing that there are children who will
9 have no one with whom to celebrate on Father's
10 Day;

11 (5) urges mothers to encourage fathers to play
12 an active role in child-rearing;

13 (6) calls on fathers across the Nation to use
14 Father's Day to reconnect and rededicate themselves
15 to their children's lives, to spend Father's Day with
16 their children, and to express their love and support
17 for their children; and

18 (7) urges American institutions, and govern-
19 ment entities at every level, to promote public poli-
20 cies that encourage and support the efforts of, and
21 remove barriers to, responsible fatherhood.

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