

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 139

Designating September 24, 2001, as “Family Day—A Day To Eat Dinner With Your Children”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 26, 2001

Mr. BIDEN (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Designating September 24, 2001, as “Family Day—A Day To Eat Dinner With Your Children”.

Whereas the use of illegal drugs and the abuse of alcohol and nicotine constitute the greatest threats to the well-being of the Nation’s children;

Whereas surveys conducted by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University have consistently found that children and teenagers who routinely eat dinner with their families are far less likely to use illegal drugs, cigarettes, and alcohol;

Whereas teenagers who virtually never eat dinner with their families are 72 percent more likely than the average teenager to use illegal drugs, alcohol, and cigarettes;

Whereas teenagers who almost always eat dinner with their families are 31 percent less likely than the average teenager to use illegal drugs, alcohol, and cigarettes;

Whereas the correlation between family dinners and reduced risk for teenage substance abuse are well-documented;

Whereas parental influence is known to be one of the most crucial factors in determining the likelihood of substance abuse by teenagers; and

Whereas family dinners have long constituted a pillar of family life in America: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates September 24, 2001, as “Family
3 Day—A Day To Eat Dinner With Your Children”;

4 (2) recognizes that eating dinner as a family is
5 an important step toward raising drug-free children;
6 and

7 (3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon—

9 (A) the parents of the children of the
10 United States to observe the day by eating dinner with their children; and

12 (B) the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and
13 activities.

