

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 Addic-
tion and Substance Abuse at Columbia University have
consistently found that children and teenagers who rou-
tinely 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 teen-
ager 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 procla-
8 mation calling upon—

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

12 (B) the people of the United States to ob-
13 serve the day with appropriate ceremonies and
14 activities.

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