

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 268

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 26, 2007

Mr. MCINTYRE (for himself and Mr. PITTS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

RESOLUTION

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

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

Whereas, according to a 2005 study conducted by the National Fatherhood Initiative, 97 percent of Americans agree with the statement that “fathers are as important as mothers for proper development of children”;

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 a broad array of the leading family and child development experts in the United States agree that it is in the best interests of children and the United States as a whole to encourage more two-parent families where the father is actively involved with his children;

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

Whereas children with fathers at home tend to do better in school, to be less prone to emotional and behavioral problems, 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 children who are apart from their biological fathers are, in comparison to other children, 5 times more likely to live in poverty, and more likely to bring weapons and drugs into the classroom, commit other crimes, drop out of school, commit suicide, abuse alcohol or drugs, become pregnant as teenagers, suffer child abuse, or exhibit other behavioral problems;

Whereas the promotion of responsible fatherhood should not denigrate the standing or parenting efforts of single mothers, whose efforts are heroic, lessen the protection of children from abusive parents, cause women to remain in, or enter into, abusive relationships, or compromise the health or safety of a custodial parent; and

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

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

1 (1) commends the millions of fathers who serve
2 as wonderful, caring parents for their children;

3 (2) calls on fathers across the United States to
4 use Father's Day to reconnect and rededicate them-
5 selves to their children's lives, to spend Father's Day
6 with their children, and to express their love and
7 support for their children;

8 (3) urges men to understand the level of re-
9 sponsibility fathering a child requires, especially in
10 the encouragement of the moral, academic, and spir-
11 itual development of children; and

12 (4) encourages active involvement of fathers in
13 the rearing and development of their children, in-
14 cluding the devotion of time, energy, and resources.

○