

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 436

Designating the week of April 22 through 28, 2012, as the “Week of the Young Child”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 25, 2012

Mr. BEGICH submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

RESOLUTION

Designating the week of April 22 through 28, 2012, as the “Week of the Young Child”.

Whereas there are 20,000,000 children under the age of 5 in the United States;

Whereas numerous studies show that high-quality early childhood education programs improve the likelihood that children will have success in school and in life by improving their cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development;

Whereas many children eligible for, and in need of, high-quality child care, Early Head Start, Head Start, and other early childhood education programs are not served by such programs;

Whereas child care assistance and other early childhood education programs enable parents to work, go to school, and support their families;

Whereas the individuals who work with young children deserve the respect of the people of the United States, professional support, and fair compensation to reflect the important value of their work;

Whereas economist and Nobel Laureate James Heckman has stated that investment in childhood education reaps economic returns due to outcomes such as lower special education placements, lower juvenile delinquency rates, and greater school graduation rates; and

Whereas the National Association for the Education of Young Children established the “Week of the Young Child” to bring attention to the developmental and learning needs of young children: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates the week of April 22 through 28,
3 2012, as the “Week of the Young Child”;

4 (2) encourages the people of the United States
5 to celebrate—

6 (A) young children and families; and

7 (B) the individuals who provide high-quality
8 care and early childhood education to the
9 young children of the United States; and

10 (3) urges the people of the United States to
11 recognize the importance of—

1 (A) high-quality, comprehensive early
2 childhood education programs; and

3 (B) the value of those programs for pre-
4 paring children to—

5 (i) experience positive development
6 and education; and

7 (ii) enjoy lifelong success.

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