

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 58

Recognizing January 2015 as “National Mentoring Month”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 29, 2015

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. BROWN)
submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Recognizing January 2015 as “National Mentoring Month”.

Whereas in 2002, the Harvard School of Public Health and
MENTOR: the National Mentoring Partnership created
National Mentoring Month;

Whereas the goals of National Mentoring Month are to raise
awareness of mentoring, recruit individuals to serve as
mentors, and encourage organizations to engage and inte-
grate quality in mentoring into their efforts;

Whereas a mentor is a caring, consistent presence who de-
votes time to a young person to help that young person
discover personal strength and achieve his or her poten-
tial through a structured and trusting relationship;

Whereas quality mentoring encourages positive choices, pro-
motes self-esteem, supports academic achievement and in-
troduces young people to new ideas;

Whereas mentoring programs have been shown to be effective in combating school violence and discipline problems, substance abuse, incarceration and truancy;

Whereas research shows that young people who were at risk for not completing high school but who had a mentor were 55 percent more likely to be enrolled in college, 81 percent more likely to report participating regularly in sports or extracurricular activities, more than twice as likely to say they held a leadership position in a club or sports team, and 78 percent more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities than young people who were at risk for not completing high school and who did not have a mentor;

Whereas youth development experts agree that mentoring is critical to the social, emotional, and cognitive development of youth, helping them navigate the path to adulthood more successfully;

Whereas mentors help young people set career goals and use their personal contacts to help young people meet industry professionals and find jobs;

Whereas mentoring is a proven cost-effective investment: for every dollar invested in mentoring, there is a 3-dollar return to society;

Whereas all of the above-listed benefits serve to link youth to economic opportunity while also strengthening the fiber of our communities; and

Whereas despite these benefits, 1 in 3 youth will reach age 19 without a mentor, constituting a “mentoring gap” that demonstrates a need for collaboration and resources: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

1 (1) recognizes January 2015 as “National Men-
2 toring Month”;

3 (2) recognizes the men and women who serve as
4 staff and volunteers at quality mentoring programs
5 and who help our young people find inner strength
6 and reach their full potential;

7 (3) acknowledges that mentoring is beneficial
8 because it encourages educational achievement, re-
9 duces juvenile delinquency, improves life outcomes,
10 and strengthens communities;

11 (4) promotes the creation and expansion of
12 quality mentoring programs across the country to
13 equip young people with the tools needed to lead
14 healthy and productive lives; and

15 (5) supports initiatives to close the “mentoring
16 gap”.

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