

Second Regular Session
Sixty-ninth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. R14-1069.01 Lara Margelofsky x3205

HR14-1006

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Swalm,

House Committees

HOUSE RESOLUTION 14-1006

101 CONCERNING NATIONAL PARENTS' DAY.

1 WHEREAS, In 1994, President Bill Clinton declared the fourth
2 Sunday of every July as National Parents' Day for the purpose of
3 recognizing, uplifting, and supporting the role of parents in the rearing of
4 children; and

5 WHEREAS, Since the inception of National Parents' Day, local
6 faith communities, elected officials, and activists throughout the nation
7 have creatively launched many activities around the theme of Parents'
8 Day designed to celebrate and strengthen two-parent families; and

9 WHEREAS, Barring high-conflict marriages, family structures
10 matter for children; and

11 WHEREAS, Numerous studies indicate that, on average,
12 two-parent families produce better outcomes for children; and

13 WHEREAS, A recent report by the Center for Law and Social
14 Policy concludes that most researchers now agree that studies support the
15 notion that children do best when raised by two-parent families; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

HOUSE
Final Reading
May 7, 2014

1 WHEREAS, Harvard economist Raj Chetty posits in his study
2 titled, "Where is the Land of Opportunity?: The Geography of
3 Intergenerational Mobility in the United States", that children of married
4 parents have higher rates of upward mobility; and

5 WHEREAS, New research from the Brookings Institute shows that
6 kids are more likely to climb the income ladder when they are raised by
7 two-parent families, thereby serving as a strong defense against poverty;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, Statistics show that children in two-parent families
10 have, on average, higher GPAs; and

11 WHEREAS, Statistics show that children in two-parent families
12 are less inclined, on average, to use illegal drugs, exercise poor sexual
13 decision-making, contemplate suicide, experience depression, engage in
14 criminal activity, drop out of school, or exhibit other harmful behaviors;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, Today in the United States, among women under 30,
17 more than half of births -- 53 % -- now occur outside of marriage; and

18 WHEREAS, It is becoming apparent to researchers that the
19 disappearance of marriage in Middle America is tracking with the
20 disappearance of the middle class in the same communities; and

21 WHEREAS, It has been noted that as a nation we have devoted
22 scant attention to the rapid disappearance of marriage in Middle America;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, Even as unstable cohabitating relationships,
25 breakups, and serial partnerships have become increasingly common in
26 Middle American families, our national leaders, presidential candidates,
27 and political parties seem to have barely noticed; and

28 WHEREAS, Economists have suggested that even a modest
29 increase in stable marriage rates would result in large savings for
30 taxpayers; and

31 WHEREAS, If family fragmentation was reduced by just 1%, U.S.
32 taxpayers would save an estimated \$1.1 billion annually; now, therefore,

1 *Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-ninth*
2 *General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

3 That we, the Colorado General Assembly:

4
5 (1) Recognize and pay tribute to the fourth Sunday of July as a
6 day of recognition for the value of two-parent families; and

7 (2) Recognize that, given that children are more likely to flourish
8 educationally, socially, economically, and emotionally in intact married
9 families, the state of Colorado should pursue policies that strengthen the
10 quality and stability of married life in the state and that Colorado should
11 also strive to ensure that public policies do not unintentionally penalize
12 marriage so as to avoid discouraging the formation and sustenance of
13 healthy married families.

14 *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Resolution be sent to
15 Former President Bill Clinton, President Barack Obama, Governor John
16 Hickenlooper, the National Parents' Day Coalition, and the National
17 Marriage Project at the University of Virginia.