



HOUSE RESOLUTION 14-1006

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Swalm, Becker, Buck, Buckner, Conti, Coram, Court, DelGrosso, Dore, Everett, Exum, Fields, Fischer, Foote, Garcia, Gardner, Gerou, Ginal, Hamner, Holbert, Hullinghorst, Humphrey, Joshi, Kagan, Kraft-Tharp, Labuda, Landgraf, Lawrence, Lebsock, Lee, May, McCann, McLachlan, McNulty, Melton, Mitsch Bush, Moreno, Murray, Navarro, Nordberg, Pabon, Peniston, Pettersen, Primavera, Priola, Rankin, Rosenthal, Ryden, Saine, Salazar, Schafer, Scott, Singer, Sonnenberg, Stephens, Szabo, Tyler, Vigil, Waller, Williams, Wilson, Wright, Young, Ferrandino.

CONCERNING NATIONAL PARENTS' DAY.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

That we, the Colorado General Assembly:

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

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

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

Marilyn Eddins
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mark Ferrandino
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES