

## **Proposal for Resolution**

### **Fathers Are Important to The Well-being of Children.**

This measure would respectfully urge the Governor and Legislature to state in the strongest possible terms, the opinion that fathers are essential and substantially contribute to the overall well-being of their children in our homes.

WHEREAS, The ideal situation for children is to have a full-time committed and loving mother and father; and

WHEREAS, There is no substitute for a loving mother and father in the lives of our children; and

WHEREAS, This is a model that has been proven throughout many millenia as the best environment in which to raise children; and

WHEREAS, Marriage and the responsibility of raising children actually reduces negative behavior in men; and

WHEREAS, Boys and girls in single-parent homes are more likely to become juvenile delinquents, proving fathers are important in the home; and

WHEREAS, Nearly three-fourths of the juveniles in state custody did not live with both parents while growing up, and most lived primarily in a single-parent home; and

WHEREAS, Girls raised in single-parent homes have a lower self image, and are more likely to engage in early sexual activity, to have children out of wedlock, and to see their own marriages end in divorce; and

WHEREAS, Girls with involved fathers are more likely to delay sex; and

WHEREAS, Boys and girls with involved fathers are less likely to use drugs or alcohol; and

WHEREAS, Single-parent families are six times more likely to be poor than two-parent families; and

WHEREAS, Boys and girls with both parents in the home perform better in school and have lower dropout rates and higher graduation rates; and

WHEREAS, Boys with absent fathers are twice as likely to go to jail as boys living or having substantial contact with both biological parents; and

WHEREAS, Close relationships between fathers and daughters reduce future instances of female depression and bolsters a daughter's self-esteem; and

WHEREAS, Fathers who interact with their sons in more physical ways, such as wrestling and other sports, help boys learn how to control and deal with their aggressions; and

WHEREAS, The more time a father spends with his children and the more supportive their relationship, the fewer behavioral problems are reported by their mothers; and

WHEREAS, Government, no matter how effective, how important, and how necessary, can never substitute for strong families, therefore be it

Resolved by the Assembly and Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature respectfully urges the Governor to announce, in the strongest possible terms, the opinion that fathers are are necessary and essential to the well-being of children in our homes; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to all government agencies responsible for the well-being of children.

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