

## **H. Res. 330**

### ***In the House of Representatives, U.S.,***

*January 23, 2002.*

Whereas the future course of the United States depends on its children and youth;

Whereas educated, confident, and nurtured children will make our Nation stronger;

Whereas research has shown that mentoring measurably affects young people by increasing school attendance, improving rates of secondary school graduation and college attendance, decreasing involvement with drugs and alcohol, and decreasing violent behavior;

Whereas considerable numbers of our Nation's children face difficult circumstances: 1 out of 4 children lives with only 1 parent; 1 out of 10 children is born to teenaged parents; 1 out of 5 children lives in poverty; and 1 out of 10 children will not finish secondary school;

Whereas mentoring is a proven, effective strategy to combat such circumstances by matching a caring, responsible adult with a child to provide guidance, stability, and direction to the child and to build the child's confidence;

Whereas it is estimated that more than 16,000,000 children in the United States need or want a mentor but mentoring programs nationwide serve at most 750,000 of such children;

Whereas a coalition of mentoring organizations have designated January as National Mentoring Month;

Whereas the establishment of a National Mentoring Month would emphasize the importance of mentoring and recognize with praise and gratitude the many individuals in the United States who are involved with mentoring; and

Whereas the establishment of a National Mentoring Month would encourage more individuals to volunteer as mentors, to the benefit of our Nation's children: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-  
2   resentatives that mentoring relationships can benefit  
3   America's youth and result in improved school attendance  
4   and academic achievement.

Attest:

*Clerk.*