

111TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 285

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas Father's Day was founded in 1910 by Mrs. John B. Dodd after attending a Mother's Day celebration in 1909 and believing that fathers should receive the same recognition;

Whereas Mrs. John B. Dodd, Sonora Smart Dodd, founded the day in celebration of her father, William Smart;

Whereas William Smart, a Civil War veteran, raised six children on his own after the death of his wife;

Whereas Spokane, Washington, recognized and hosted the first celebration of Father's Day on June 19, 1910;

Whereas in 1924, President Calvin Coolidge recognized Father's Day and urged States to follow suit;

Whereas in 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed a proclamation calling for the third Sunday in June to be recognized as Father's Day and requested that flags be flown that day on all government buildings;

Whereas President Richard Nixon signed a proclamation in 1972 permanently observing Father's Day on the third Sunday in June;

Whereas Father's Day is celebrated in over 50 countries around the world;

Whereas there are an estimated 64.3 million fathers around the Nation today;

Whereas it is well documented that children involved with loving fathers are significantly more likely to have healthy self-esteems, exhibit empathy and prosocial behavior, avoid high risk behaviors, have reduced antisocial behavior and delinquency in boys, have better peer relationships, and have higher occupational mobility relative to parents;

Whereas fathers who live with their children are more likely to have a close, enduring relationship with their children than those who do not; and

Whereas the 100th anniversary of Father's Day will be celebrated in Spokane, Washington, on June 20, 2010: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) recognizes the important role that fathers
4 play in the lives of their children and families; and

5 (2) supports the goals and ideals of the Year of
6 the Father.

Passed the House of Representatives June 24, 2010.

Attest:

Clerk.

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Recognizing the important role that fathers play in the lives of their children and families and supporting the goals and ideals of designating 2010 as the Year of the Father.