

By Senator Bullard

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Senate Resolution

A resolution expressing affection for and gratitude to all fathers.

WHEREAS, in 1909 Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington, first had the idea of a "father's day" while listening to a Mother's Day sermon, and

WHEREAS, Sonora Dodd realized the strength, courage, and selflessness her father had shown in raising his children as a single parent, and thus chose to hold the first Father's Day celebration in Spokane, Washington, on the 19th of June, 1910, and

WHEREAS, in early times, wearing flowers was a traditional way of celebrating Father's Day, and

WHEREAS, in 1924, President Calvin Coolidge recognized Father's Day as a national event to "establish more intimate relations between fathers and their children and to impress upon fathers the full measure of their obligations," and

WHEREAS, in 1926, a National Father's Day Committee was formed in New York City, resulting in a Joint Resolution of Congress in 1956 recognizing Father's Day, and President Richard Nixon signed the law that finally made Father's Day a permanent holiday in 1972, and

WHEREAS, Sunday, June 15, 2008, has been designated as Father's Day in the United States, and

WHEREAS, the American tradition of a productive society and a secure home has depended in great part on the hard work and sacrifice of fathers who tirelessly seek for their children a

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29 | better life and greater opportunity than they themselves have
30 | known, and

31 | WHEREAS, fulfilling the demanding roles of fatherhood, as
32 | provider, teacher, role model, comforter, and protector, is an
33 | act of true heroism in today's world, and

34 | WHEREAS, each new generation looks to its fathers for
35 | courage, strength, and understanding, and

36 | WHEREAS, the enduring affection between fathers and their
37 | families is recognized and appreciated as one of the most
38 | positive elements upon which our future as a nation depends, and

39 | WHEREAS, it is fitting and appropriate that the members and
40 | staff of the Florida Senate recognize the immeasurable debt of
41 | gratitude owed to fathers for their strength, guidance,
42 | understanding, and love, NOW, THEREFORE,

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44 | Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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46 | That the members of the Senate do hereby express to their
47 | own fathers and to all fathers, on behalf of the people of the
48 | State of Florida, personal affection and heartfelt gratitude.

49 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be spread upon
50 | the Journal of the Senate as a tangible token of the love and
51 | respect that the members hold for all fathers.