

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 14, 2009, 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 better life and greater opportunity than they themselves have

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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.