

1 A RESOLUTION declaring the Kentucky Senate's acknowledgment and
2 recognition of the value of fatherhood and its impact on building a strong secure society,
3 and honoring the work of Eunice Ray and Dr. Linda Jeffrey.

4 WHEREAS, the involvement of fathers with their families fosters enhanced
5 emotional and social development and promotes confidence, emotional security, and
6 social competence; and

7 WHEREAS, the involvement of fathers with their families indicates 35 percent
8 greater self-worth and 70 percent fewer instances of relational aggression as well as
9 stronger pro-social behaviors and empathy in early childhood; and

10 WHEREAS, children with resident fathers exhibit superior academic and cognitive
11 performance, being 43 percent more likely to earn A's, being 33 percent less likely to
12 repeat a grade, and having 25 percent higher college enrollment rates, alongside small-to-
13 moderate positive effects on early cognitive functioning and school readiness; and

14 WHEREAS, a new generation of confident and secure as well as emotionally and
15 socially healthy risk-taking entrepreneurs will determine the future prosperity of our
16 nation's economy in a rapidly changing AI-dominated environment; and

17 WHEREAS, a father's presence markedly reduces behavioral problems and
18 delinquency with children in such homes facing 80 percent lower likelihood of jail time
19 as well as 75 percent less chance of school suspension or expulsion; and

20 WHEREAS, households with resident fathers experience greater economic stability
21 with poverty rates of approximately 11 percent compared to 47.6 percent in single-parent
22 homes with a female head of household, thereby reducing economic disadvantage by 25
23 percent to 30 percent and improving long-term career prospects for children; and

24 WHEREAS, father leadership mitigates risks of substance abuse and early sexual
25 activity with nearly 75 percent of youth in substance abuse treatment originating from
26 father-absent homes and the presence of a father decreasing delinquency or substance use
27 by 40 percent and teen pregnancy rates by 75 percent; and

1 WHEREAS, research consistently demonstrates that the presence of a father or
2 father figure in the home significantly enhances children's mental health, reducing the
3 risk of mood disorders by up to 4.7 times compared to single-parent homes without a
4 father figure, and buffering against depressive symptoms in adolescence with father-
5 absent children showing higher symptom scores by age 18; and

6 WHEREAS, conversely, absence of a father or father figure correlates with severe
7 disadvantages, including four to five times higher poverty rates, 71 percent increased
8 likelihood of students dropping out of high school, two to three times greater risk of teen
9 pregnancy and incarceration, two times higher odds of juvenile delinquency, 63 percent
10 to 75 percent of substance abuse treatment cases, two to four times elevated rates of
11 depression and anxiety, five times higher suicide attempts, and 20 percent to 50 percent
12 worse outcomes in academic, behavioral, and mental health measures; and

13 WHEREAS, the effects of a fatherless household persist into adulthood and
14 transmit intergenerationally with children from father-absent homes more likely to
15 perpetuate similar family structures, underscoring the need for proactive educational
16 interventions; and

17 WHEREAS, recent trends indicate increasing father presence in U.S. households
18 correlates with improved child well-being and programs promoting responsive parenting
19 further amplify these benefits through enhanced father engagement; and

20 WHEREAS, there is a widely recognized movement of young adults rediscovering
21 their spiritual roots in family roles so often expressed in our nation's founding documents
22 and expressed in the Bible with the following verse: "And he will turn the hearts of
23 fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike
24 the land with a decree of utter destruction" (Malachi 4:6);

25 NOW, THEREFORE,

26 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***
27 ***Kentucky:***

1 ➔Section 1. The value of traditional marriage and a father's leadership in the
2 home is hereby acknowledged and affirmed due to its profound benefits for children's
3 mental, academic, behavioral, emotional, social, and economic well-being. The welfare
4 and future of children requires that fathers be affirmed and restored to leadership in the
5 traditional family unit in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and promoted for the common
6 good.

7 ➔Section 2. The Kentucky Senate honors the lifetime work of Eunice Ray,
8 President of First Principles Press, and Dr. Linda Jeffrey, Director of Research at First
9 Principles Press, in carrying on in their work the legacy of Colonel Ronald Ray and their
10 effort to restore to America the values and principles of the family unit as it was intended
11 to be.

12 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
13 Resolution to Senator Lindsey Tichenor for delivery.