

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 3, 2004

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003–04 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 204

Introduced by Assembly Member La Suer

March 25, 2004

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 204—Relative to Traditional Family Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 204, as amended, La Suer. Traditional Family Month.

This measure would provide that the celebration of “Traditional Family Month” be encouraged with family festivities, reunions, and traditions. The measure would further declare the month of ~~May~~ *July* to be “Traditional Family ~~Month,~~” and would annually pay tribute to the importance of traditional families with a month-long display in the Capitol Rotunda. ~~Month.~~”

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 ~~Whereas~~
- 2 *WHEREAS*, The natural family, being of a mother and a father,
- 3 is the fundamental unit, inscribed in human nature and centered
- 4 around the voluntary union of man and woman in a lifelong
- 5 covenant of marriage for the purposes of satisfying the longings
- 6 of the human heart to give and receive love, of welcoming and
- 7 ensuring the full physical and emotional development of children,
- 8 of sharing a home that serves as the center for social, educational,
- 9 economic, and spiritual life, of building strong bonds among the
- 10 generations to pass on a way of life that has transcendent meaning,

1 and extending a hand of compassion to individual households
2 whose circumstances fall short of these ideals; and

3 ~~Whereas~~

4 *WHEREAS*, In many cases, single parents and grandparents
5 ably meet the challenges of raising children by providing a loving
6 and healthy environment; and

7 ~~Whereas~~

8 *WHEREAS*, The traditional family has been the basic societal
9 building block for generations; and

10 ~~Whereas~~

11 *WHEREAS*, Children living with both biological married
12 parents have a much lower risk of being physically neglected or
13 abused; and

14 ~~Whereas~~

15 *WHEREAS*, Studies indicate that girls who live with their
16 biological married parents in eighth grade are less likely to have
17 a premarital birth by the 12th grade than are girls living in other
18 family structures; and

19 ~~Whereas~~

20 *WHEREAS*, A 1998 study on drug abuse found that adolescents
21 12 to 17 years of age, inclusive, who live with their biological
22 married parents are the least likely to use illicit drugs; and

23 ~~Whereas~~

24 *WHEREAS*, A 1996 study of fourth grade urban boys found that
25 those living with their biological parents were twice as likely not
26 to be arrested by 14 years of age; and

27 ~~Whereas~~

28 *WHEREAS*, A study of children living with their biological
29 parents were less likely to suffer from asthma, to show elevated
30 scores on health vulnerability exams, or to have emotional or
31 behavioral problems; and

32 ~~Whereas~~

33 *WHEREAS*, Children of married parents are much less likely to
34 live in poverty; and

35 ~~Whereas~~

36 *WHEREAS*, Children living with their married parents were less
37 likely to repeat a grade or to be expelled from school; and

38 ~~Whereas~~



1 *WHEREAS*, Children living with their married biological
2 parents fare better academically and have fewer emotional and
3 behavior problems; and

4 ~~Whereas~~

5 *WHEREAS*, 78% of people surveyed worldwide agreed that “a
6 family created through lawful marriage is the fundamental unit of
7 society”; and

8 ~~Whereas~~

9 *WHEREAS*, 86% of people surveyed worldwide agreed that
10 “all things being equal, it is better for children to be raised in a
11 household that has a married mother and father”; and

12 ~~Whereas~~

13 *WHEREAS*, 87% of Americans agree that it is best for children
14 to grow up in two-parent homes; now, therefore, be it

15 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
16 *thereof concurring*, That the celebration of “Traditional Family
17 Month” be encouraged with family festivities, reunions, and
18 traditions; and be it further

19 *Resolved*, That in honor of traditional families, the State of
20 California declares the month of ~~May~~ *July* to be “Traditional
21 Family Month” ~~and shall hereby annually pay tribute to the~~
22 ~~importance of traditional families with a month-long display in the~~
23 ~~California State Capitol Rotunda~~; and be it further

24 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
25 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

