

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 63

BY SENATOR BROOME

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To proclaim May 5, 2010, as "Sex has Consequences" Prevent Teen Pregnancy Day.

WHEREAS, more than seven hundred thousand teenagers become pregnant each year in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the United States has the highest rates of teen pregnancy and birth in the fully industrialized world; and

WHEREAS, after fourteen years of decline, the national teen birth rate rose by five percent between 2005 and 2007; and

WHEREAS, in Louisiana over eleven thousand girls between fifteen and nineteen years of age became pregnant in 2005; and

WHEREAS, births to teens count for nearly seventeen percent of all births in Louisiana and ninety-five percent of teen births are to unmarried teens; and

WHEREAS, only approximately seventy percent of pregnant teens receive prenatal care, while eighty-five percent is the average for women in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana encourages its young people to complete their education, achieve independence, become productive and contributing members of society, and remain sexually abstinent until marriage, and recognizes that teen pregnancy and childbearing may compromise these goals; and

WHEREAS, a child is nine times more likely to grow up in poverty if he is born to unmarried teen parents who have not yet completed high school; and

WHEREAS, less than half of mothers who have a child before they turn eighteen years of age ever graduate from high school, and less than two percent of mothers who have children before eighteen years of age have a college degree by the age of thirty; and

WHEREAS, Ginger Douglas, Miss Lafayette's Outstanding Teen and who is a junior at Central High School, is promoting teen pregnancy prevention as her platform; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness and understanding of this complex issue and the importance of helping teens avoid unintended pregnancy can contribute to the future reduction of teen pregnancies and help to build stronger families and a healthier society.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby proclaim May 5, 2010, as "Sex has Consequences" Prevent Teen Pregnancy Day.

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Ginger Douglas.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES