

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 115

BY GREIMANN

A Concurrent Resolution encouraging the implementation and support of asset development programs.

WHEREAS, research shows that effective schools, families, congregations, and communities can contribute to the positive development of youth; and

WHEREAS, from September 1989 to today, over 600,000 adolescents in over 1,000 communities in 33 states have participated in a study that asked kids to list the different supports in their lives; and

WHEREAS, after analyzing the study data, it was discovered that the difference between troubled teens and those leading healthy, productive, positive lives was strongly affected by the presence of what is labeled "developmental assets"; and

WHEREAS, these assets are cumulative, meaning that the more a young person has, the better; and

WHEREAS, 40 of these assets were identified, with 20 existing in the teen's environment and 20 belonging in the head and heart of every child; and

WHEREAS, research shows that the more assets a teen has, the less likely the teen is to use drugs and alcohol, be sexually active, depressed, or to have suicidal thoughts, to fail in school, and to exhibit antisocial or violent behavior; and

WHEREAS, research shows that the more assets a teen has the more likely they are to succeed in school and to exhibit empathic and caring behaviors; NOW

THEREFORE,

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1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE  
2 SENATE CONCURRING, That the Iowa General Assembly  
3 encourages each neighborhood, congregation, community,  
4 school district, and state agency to review the  
5 research in order to initiate and sustain programs  
6 that build the 40 assets in Iowa's children and teens.

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