

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 15

1 BY FALLON, BERRY, BUKTA, COHOON, DANDEKAR,  
2 DAVITT, FOEGE, FORD, FREVERT, HEDDENS, HUNTER,  
3 JACOBY, JOCHUM, KRESSIG, KUHN, LENSING, LYKAM,  
4 MASCHER, MERTZ, MILLER, MURPHY, OLDSOON, D. OLSON,  
5 R. OLSON, PETERSEN, PETTENGILL, REICHERT, SCHUELLER,  
6 SHOMSHOR, SMITH, SWAIM, D. TAYLOR, T. TAYLOR, THOMAS,  
7 WENDT, WESSEL-KROESCHELL, WHITAKER, WHITEAD, WISE,  
8 and ZIRKELBACH  
9

10 A Concurrent Resolution designating November 13  
11 through 19, 2005, as Iowa Homeless Awareness Week.

12 WHEREAS, the Iowa Homelessness Study conducted in  
13 2001 concluded that over 18,000 homeless people, with  
14 4,300 in Des Moines alone, and over 7,000 near-  
15 homeless people live in Iowa; and

16 WHEREAS, the 2001 report indicates that nearly 60  
17 percent of those homeless and near-homeless people are  
18 children, over 11 percent of those homeless and near-  
19 homeless people are less than five years of age, and  
20 unaccompanied children represent more than 10 percent  
21 of the homeless population; and

22 WHEREAS, 82 percent of the homeless and 90 percent  
23 of the near-homeless single adult households with  
24 children are headed by a woman; and

25 WHEREAS, family breakup, potential utility  
26 disconnection, and job loss are consistently the  
27 leading causes of homelessness; and

28 WHEREAS, Iowa's homeless and near-homeless people  
29 exist in rural and urban areas, and in low-poverty and  
30 high-poverty communities; and

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1 WHEREAS, the poverty level population is defined by  
2 the federal poverty line, \$19,350 in income for a  
3 family of four, which equates roughly to between 30  
4 percent and 50 percent of the median income in most  
5 Iowa counties; and

6 WHEREAS, the lack of living wage jobs and  
7 affordable housing are reported as the most  
8 significant barriers to resolving homelessness in  
9 every type of community, and long-term economic  
10 solutions that create living wage jobs and affordable  
11 housing seem necessary to solve this crisis; NOW  
12 THEREFORE,

13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE  
14 SENATE CONCURRING, That the General Assembly  
15 designates the week of November 13 through 19, 2005,  
16 as Iowa Homeless Awareness Week, and invites the  
17 citizens of Iowa to increase their awareness of the  
18 causes of homelessness and seek to implement solutions  
19 to homelessness; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the General Assembly  
21 requests that the Governor issue a proclamation  
22 calling upon the people of Iowa to observe Iowa  
23 Homeless Awareness Week with appropriate programs,  
24 ceremonies, and activities.

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