

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 3267

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE RICHEY.

3472H.01I

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

2 **WHEREAS**, healthy, functional families are fundamental to a free and vibrant society
3 and stand as chief deterrents to social ills; and

4

5 **WHEREAS**, sturdy, functional men are fundamental to families; and

6

7 **WHEREAS**, the current breakdown of the family can, in part, be attributed to a lack
8 of cultural interest in honorable, virtuous, and vigorous manhood, while, at the same time,
9 there exists a cultural fixation upon toxic masculinity; and

10

11 **WHEREAS**, children are four times more likely to suffer poverty, absent a father; and

12

13 **WHEREAS**, children are seven times more likely to face teen pregnancy, absent a
14 father; and

15

16 **WHEREAS**, children are two times more likely to drop out of school, absent a father;
17 and

18

19 **WHEREAS**, children are five times more likely to suffer behavioral problems, absent
20 a father; and

21

22 **WHEREAS**, children are two times more likely to suffer abuse and neglect, absent a
23 father; and

24

25 **WHEREAS**, children are two times more likely to be incarcerated, absent a father;
26 and

27

28 **WHEREAS**, children are four times more likely to die in the first 28 days of life,
29 absent a father; and

30

30 **WHEREAS**, men over 30 years of age are more likely than women to have extra-
31 marital affairs; and

32

33 **WHEREAS**, men drive 70% of the demand for the pornography industry resulting in
34 more causal responsibility regarding sex trafficking; and

35

36 **WHEREAS**, the entertainment industry devotes significant resources to exhibiting
37 toxic masculinity; and

38

39 **WHEREAS**, young men require a clear challenge from exemplary, male role-models
40 to combat the pervasive influences and effects of toxic masculinity; and

41

42 **WHEREAS**, the state of Missouri increasingly dedicates taxpayer resources to
43 address the aforementioned concerns:

44

45 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the members of the Missouri
46 House of Representatives, One Hundred First General Assembly, Second Regular Session,
47 hereby commend exemplary men in Missouri for their commitment to an honorable, virtuous,
48 and vigorous manhood, desiring that their sacrifices and effort in the "arena" not be forgotten;
49 and

50

51 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we call Missouri's young men to engage in the
52 "Missouri Manhood Challenge," which targets this same honorable, virtuous, and vigorous
53 manhood. Take up this challenge, young men, by rejecting the objectification of women; by
54 striving for future excellence upon becoming husbands and fathers; by sacrificing for the
55 good of others; by developing capabilities that lead to greater self-sufficiency and familial
56 sustenance; by strengthening yourselves spiritually, mentally, intellectually, and physically;
57 and by embracing the essential role you play in securing a free, vibrant society. We are
58 confident that you will find that this challenge is worthy of your devotion; to borrow from
59 Alfred Lord Tennyson, its fruit justifies the strength of your will "to strive, to seek, to find,
60 and not to yield" in this consequential endeavor.

✓