

R041 - 0809

10 **A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE COMPOSITION OF SEX EDUCATION CURRICULA**

20 **WHEREAS:** Current sex education curricula, regardless of basis, do not generally teach youths the
30 consequences of sexual activity, drawing criticism from members of both political parties; and,

40 **WHEREAS:** The designed biological outcome of sexual intercourse is reproduction; and,

50 **WHEREAS:** Even those courses which discuss Sexually Transmitted Diseases as a consequence of sexual
60 activity fail to adequately discuss—or often even mention—the requirements of caring for a child; and,

70 **WHEREAS:** Teen pregnancy rates are both reflective of, and exacerbating to, a situation in which young
80 mothers and fathers are ill-prepared to handle; and,

90 **WHEREAS:** Programs granting shelter to babies abandoned by teen mothers are often overwhelmed by
100 unanticipated volume, with Nebraska's program only one example; and,

110 **WHEREAS:** Because minor teens, being themselves legal dependents, are inherently unprepared to care
120 for children, creating a massive drain on both Federal and State government resources and vastly
130 decreasing career opportunities and prospects for teens at a young age; and

140 **WHEREAS:** Teens need to be prepared to handle the consequences of their actions; and,

150 **WHEREAS:** Providing parenting classes will demonstrate to teens the enormity of the responsibility
160 involved in raising a child, creating more responsible parents and individuals who will choose to
170 wait until they are financially and emotionally ready to have children; and,

180 **WHEREAS:** Children born into stable families are far less likely to engage in criminal behavior, drugs,
190 addictions, and are far more likely to complete an education; and,

200 **WHEREAS:** Lowering teen pregnancy and crime rates and increasing education levels are all integral
210 to ending poverty in the United States,

220 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the Maryland General
230 Assembly to enact legislation requiring that parenting classes be a mandatory part of the public High
240 School sex education curriculum.

250 **MANDATES:** Martin O'Malley, Governor
260 Thomas V. Miller, Jr., President of the Senate
270 Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates
280 Edward J. Kasemeyer, Majority Leader, Maryland State Senate
290 David R. Brinkley, Minority Leader, Maryland State Senate
300 Kumar P. Barve, Majority Leader, Maryland House of Delegates
310 Anthony J. O'Donnell, Minority Leader, Maryland House of Delegates

SPONSORS:

Meghan Sherman, McDaniel College
Stuart M. Clarke, McDaniel College