

# House Joint Resolution 45

Sponsored by Representatives WINGARD, SHIELDS

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Declares legislative policy in support of fatherhood and promoting bonds between children and parents by providing children maximum access to parents regardless of marital status.

## JOINT RESOLUTION

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2       Whereas babies as young as three months of age can distinguish between their mother and fa-  
3 ther; and

4       Whereas children with involved fathers score higher on cognitive tests; and

5       Whereas improved cognitive ability is associated with higher educational attainment; and

6       Whereas father involvement lessens the likelihood of at-risk children failing or dropping out of  
7 school; and

8       Whereas children with involved fathers experience enhanced career success, leading to higher  
9 incomes and greater financial stability; and

10       Whereas children with involved fathers demonstrate lower rates of teen violence, delinquency  
11 and other law enforcement problems; and

12       Whereas father involvement is associated with positive child characteristics such as empathy,  
13 self-esteem, self-control, psychological well-being, social acceptance and life skills; and

14       Whereas having an involved father provides a role model for positive parenting, healthy  
15 caregiving and commitment to the family; now, therefore,

16 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

17       That the Seventy-fifth Legislative Assembly declares that it is legislative policy to support  
18 fatherhood and to further children's well-being by enhancing the bonds between children and parents  
19 through providing children maximum access to their fit and loving parents regardless of the current  
20 marital status of the parents.

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**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.