

REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: June 15, 2023

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Sharon M. Tso 
Chief Legislative Analyst

Council File No: 23-0002-S64
Assignment No: 23-06-0311

SUBJECT: HR 36 Fatherhood Well-being Month

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution (McOsker – Price) to include in the City’s 2023-2024 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for HR 36 (Gipson), which would annually declare the month of June as Fatherhood Well-being Month.

SUMMARY

On June 7, 2023, the Resolution (McOsker – Price) was introduced in support for HR 36 (Gipson), which would annually declare the month of June as Fatherhood Well-being Month. The Resolution states that research demonstrates that when fathers are involved in the lives of their children, those children tend to be more psychologically and emotionally balanced, have better social skills, higher grades, and stronger parenting skills when they start their own families. The Resolution further states that a father's well-being is critical to remaining involved and being a positive presence in their children's lives, thereby building stronger bonds.

Therefore, the Resolution recommends support for HR 36 (Gipson), which seeks to bring awareness of fatherhood by annually declaring the month of June as Fatherhood Well-being Month.

BACKGROUND

Fathers play an important role in their children’s well-being and development. Fatherhood exists in many forms, including stepfathers, foster fathers, relative caregivers, and father figures. Research by the National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse has found positive links between father involvement and children’s well-being. When fathers are involved in the lives of their children, those children tend to be more psychologically and emotionally balanced, have better social skills, higher grades, and stronger parenting skills when they start their own families. Father involvement can also significantly support the family. Research has shown that when fathers are involved in core family leisure activities such as eating dinner as a family, playing sports, or participating in hobbies together, families tend to experience more closeness, more easily adapt to change, and are more likely to report that their family members are supportive compared to when fathers are less involved in these activities.

A father's well-being is critical to remaining involved and being a positive presence in their children's lives. Fatherhood well-being includes physical and mental health, healthy relationships, parenting skills, financial stability, and quality time with children. Studies have shown that being

a father is also linked to a number of positive outcomes for men. Fathers experience better physical and mental health than men who do not have children. Being a father is also linked to positive employment outcomes including an increase in wages and work effort. Fathers are also more likely than men without children to be involved in community service and provide support to friends and extended family. Research has also suggested that fathers tend to be healthier than men who do not have children and may even live longer.

DEPARTMENTS NOTIFIED

The Department of Community Investment for Families reports that it appreciates how this bill calls out the unique role fathers play in stabilizing vulnerable families and looks forward to continuing to offer parenting classes on a variety of topics through their FamilySource Centers.

BILL STATUS – HR 36

05/08/23 Introduced

05/11/23 Referred to Committee on Rules

06/08/23 Ordered to Third Reading



Xochitl Ramirez
Analyst

SMT:xr

Attachment: 1. Resolution

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council; and

WHEREAS, fatherhood exists in many forms, including stepfathers, foster fathers, relative caregivers, and father figures; and

WHEREAS, research shows that when fathers are involved in the lives of their children, those children tend to be more psychologically and emotionally balanced, have better social skills, higher grades, and stronger parenting skills when they start their own families; and

WHEREAS, father involvement can also significantly support the family, leading to healthier births, lower risk of postpartum depression, and reduced parenting stress; and

WHEREAS, a father's well-being is critical to remaining involved and being a positive presence in their children's lives, thereby building stronger bonds; and

WHEREAS, fatherhood well-being includes physical and mental health, healthy relationships, parenting skills, financial stability, and quality time with children; and

WHEREAS, HR 36(Gipson) would annually declare the month of June as Fatherhood Well-being Month; and

WHEREAS, the bill seeks to bring awareness of fatherhood and how the State can advance the well-being of fathers by ensuring fathers are healthy, thriving, and empowered in the lives of their children, leading to socioeconomically stable and inclusive communities statewide;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-2024 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for HR 36 (Gipson) which would annually declare the month of June as Fatherhood Well-being Month.

PRESENTED BY: _____

TIM McOSKER
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY: _____

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