

FILED MAR 20 2006

1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 134

2 BY SEYMOUR and RAGAN

3 A Resolution designating March 23, 2006, through April 10,  
4 2006, as "Underage Drinking Prevention Days" in Iowa.

5 WHEREAS, the consumption of alcoholic beverages by  
6 persons who are under the legal age to purchase or  
7 possess such beverages is a critical health and safety  
8 issue in this nation and in Iowa; and

9 WHEREAS, forty-seven percent of persons between 12  
10 and 20 years of age reported drinking alcohol within  
11 the past year in a nationwide survey conducted in  
12 2004; and

13 WHEREAS, twenty-nine percent of persons between 12  
14 and 20 years of age reported drinking alcohol within  
15 the last month; and

16 WHEREAS, twenty-six percent of persons between 12  
17 and 20 years of age reported heavy alcohol use or  
18 binge drinking within the last month; and

19 WHEREAS, forty-four percent of Iowa's eleventh  
20 grade students participating in the 2002 Iowa Youth  
21 Survey reported drinking alcohol within the last month  
22 and 18 percent of eighth grade students reported  
23 drinking alcohol within the last month; and

24 WHEREAS, thirty-six percent of Iowa's eleventh  
25 grade students participating in the 2002 Iowa Youth  
26 Survey reported drinking five or more drinks in a row,  
27 commonly known as "binge drinking", within the last  
28 month; and

29 WHEREAS, alcohol use is a leading risk factor in  
30 the three main causes of death among youth: motor

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1 vehicle accidents, homicide, and suicide; and  
2 WHEREAS, operating while intoxicated (OWI) arrest  
3 rates for persons under 18 years of age had been  
4 steadily declining since 1997, when the arrest rate  
5 was 48 per 100,000 Iowa youth residents, to 2001, when  
6 the arrest rate had fallen to 37 arrests per 100,000  
7 Iowa youth residents, but increased sharply to 47  
8 arrests per 100,000 Iowa youth residents in 2002; and

9 WHEREAS, other adverse consequences of underage  
10 drinking include risky sexual behavior and poor school  
11 performance; and

12 WHEREAS, in addition to death, injury, pain, and  
13 suffering, underage drinking results in staggering  
14 social and economic costs for Iowa, including an  
15 estimated direct cost of \$229 million in 2001 for  
16 medical care and lost wages, and another \$406 million  
17 for indirect costs; and

18 WHEREAS, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
19 Services Administration of the United States  
20 Department of Health and Human Services has  
21 coordinated a nationwide effort for communities to  
22 hold town hall style meetings on or around March 28,  
23 2006, to raise awareness of the issue of underage  
24 drinking and to alert and empower communities; and

25 WHEREAS, at least 38 Iowa communities will be  
26 holding town hall style meetings from March 23, 2006,  
27 through April 10, 2006; NOW THEREFORE,

28 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate  
29 designates March 23, 2006, through April 10, 2006, as  
30 "Underage Drinking Prevention Days" in Iowa.

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