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- Parents of 50 Million to Lose Parental Rights
- The State of Parental Rights in America 2015
- Families in the News
- States Watch
- Foreign News

SJRes.36 Proposes Parental Rights Amendment

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The following is our press release from Friday, July 1, introducing the Parental Rights Amendment in the Senate:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE // July 1, 2016 // Washington, D.C. – Legislation in the U.S. Senate to propose a Parental Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution has officially received a bill number: **Senate Joint Resolution 36. SJRes.36** had five sponsors at its introduction on Wednesday, June 29: lead sponsor Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and cosponsors John McCain (R-AZ), Roy Blunt (R-MO), Johnny Isakson (R-GA), and Jim Risch (R-ID).

“We are gratified to see Senators take up this measure for a fourth straight Congress,” declared ParentalRights.org President Michael Farris, a proponent of the resolution. **“Parental rights should be championed in every Congress until their protection becomes a constitutional reality.”**

The Amendment, which would provide that “[t]he liberty of parents to direct the upbringing, education, and care of their children is a fundamental right,” requires a two-thirds vote in each house of Congress to go to the states for ratification. This means bipartisan support will be necessary for its passage.

“The Parental Rights Amendment should absolutely have bipartisan support,” according to Detroit-area family law attorney Allison Folmar. “And polls have shown that among the American people, it does have that support. **Now we’re looking to Congress to reflect that reality.**”

“Blind parents like my wife and me, and other parents with disabilities, should not have to live in fear of our precious children being taken from us based solely on low expectations and misconceptions. **The National Federation of the Blind wholeheartedly supports this proposed amendment, which will, for the first time, protect the parental rights of persons with disabilities on an equal basis,**” declares Mark Riccobono, President of the National Federation of the Blind. “The callous error of 1927’s *Buck v. Bell* can finally be corrected in the text of the Constitution. We urge all members of Congress to support this historic amendment.”

The NFL’s 2005 MVP, Shaun Alexander, who was recently named vice president of ParentalRights.org, is also among those supporting the Amendment effort.

“We must secure our key sponsors and pass the Parental Rights Amendment before the clock runs out,” Alexander said in a recent release to the organization.

Senators interested in cosponsoring the measure should contact Senator Graham’s office.

Please take a moment if you haven’t already done so to share this news with your senators. You can find their contact info by clicking at your state at [ParentalRights.org/states](#), or call the Capitol Switchboard at 202.224.3121 and ask for your senators by name.

Sincerely,

Michael Ramey
Director of Communications & Research

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