

Rep. VanderWall offered the following resolution:

**House Resolution No. 148.**

A resolution to declare September 2017 as Family Meals Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Family Meals Month is a national effort to encourage families to pledge to share more meals at home per week; and

Whereas, Family meals are fun, affordable, and healthier than other dining options; and

Whereas, Ninety-two percent of U.S. consumers say they want to eat more healthy meals, yet only 30 percent of American families share dinner every night; and

Whereas, Conversations around dinner tables establish closer relationships and increase parental involvement; and

Whereas, Regular family meals are linked to kids earning higher grades, improving self-esteem, and resisting negative peer pressure; and

Whereas, With each additional family meal shared each week, adolescents are less likely to show symptoms of violence, depression, and suicide, less likely to use or abuse drugs or run away, and less likely to engage in risky behaviors; and

Whereas, Children who grow up sharing family meals are more likely to exhibit prosocial behavior as adults, such as sharing, fairness, and respect; and

Whereas, Kids and teens who share meals with their family three or more times per week are significantly less likely to be overweight, more likely to eat healthy foods, and less likely to have eating disorders; and

Whereas, Ninety percent of supermarkets offer fresh, prepared foods, 95 percent offer cooking demos, 86 percent offer cooking classes, and 100 percent offer recipes and meal ideas; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare September 2017 as Family Meals Month in the state of Michigan; and be it further

Resolved, That the people of the state of Michigan are encouraged to add one more family meal per week during this month and throughout the year.