



Introduced Version

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## SENATE RESOLUTION No. 9

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### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the legislative council to assign to the Criminal Law and Sentencing Policy Study Committee the topic of raising the age of consent from 16 to 18 years of age.

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**Steele**

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January 9, 2014, read first time and referred to Committee on Corrections & Criminal Law.

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## SENATE RESOLUTION No. 9

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MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1           A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the legislative council to assign  
2           to the Criminal Law and Sentencing Policy Study Committee the topic  
3           of raising the age of consent from 16 to 18 years of age.

4           *Whereas, The age of consent is the age at or above which*  
5           *a person is considered to have the legal capacity to consent*  
6           *to sexual activity;*

7           *Whereas, The age of consent in Indiana is 16 years of age;*

8           *Whereas, It is presumed that before 16 years of age*  
9           *children are not capable legally of consenting to sexual*  
10          *activity;*

11          *Whereas, It is undeniably true that children form a special*  
12          *and vulnerable group in our society;*

13          *Whereas, Below a certain minimum age, children are at*  
14          *risk of not having the physiological, biological, and*  
15          *emotional development to cope with sex and the many*  
16          *possible consequences of having sex; and*

17          *Whereas, The decisions our young people make can affect*  
18          *the rest of their lives; it behooves the state of Indiana to*  
19          *ensure that they are old enough to make the correct decision:*  
20          *Therefore,*



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*Be it resolved by the Senate  
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

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SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate urges the legislative council to assign Criminal Law and Sentencing Policy Study Committee the topic of raising the age of consent to 18 years of age.

