

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. RES. 683

Raising awareness of lake sturgeon.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 22, 2026

Mr. WELCH submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the  
Committee on Environment and Public Works

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## RESOLUTION

Raising awareness of lake sturgeon.

Whereas lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*) are some of the  
largest North American freshwater fishes and can live for  
150 years or longer;

Whereas lake sturgeon are considered living fossils, as their  
lineage dates back to the time of dinosaurs, making them  
among the oldest fish species still in existence;

Whereas lake sturgeon are slow to reproduce as they may not  
spawn until they are at least 10 to 30 years old, and they  
only spawn every 4 years on average;

Whereas lake sturgeon are found across the Great Lakes, the  
Northeastern United States, and Southeastern Canada;

Whereas lake sturgeon are bottom-dwelling fish that require  
extensive areas of shallow water to feed on a wide variety  
of organisms;

Whereas historical overfishing, invasive species, and habitat degradation have caused declines in the population of local lake sturgeon;

Whereas many States list lake sturgeon as an endangered, threatened, or otherwise protected species;

Whereas lake sturgeon serve an important role as an indicator of an ecosystem's health;

Whereas lake sturgeon attract the attention of the public because of their large size and prehistoric body;

Whereas many Federal agencies, States, Tribes, and local communities are collaborating on lake sturgeon management programs that are reestablishing healthy lake sturgeon populations; and

Whereas lake sturgeon have cultural importance for many Indigenous communities, representing a traditional food source: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate encourages—

2               (1) continued collaboration among Federal,  
3       State, Tribal, and other partners to manage and in-  
4       crease lake sturgeon populations across their exten-  
5       sive range;

6               (2) continued collaboration with Canada to  
7       jointly manage and increase lake sturgeon popu-  
8       lations in our shared waters;

9               (3) continued efforts to identify, protect, and  
10      restore the habitat of lake sturgeon;

- 1           (4) continued efforts to prevent and control the
- 2           spread of invasive species and restore the reproduc-
- 3           tive habitat of lake sturgeon;
- 4           (5) increased public awareness of lake sturgeon;
- 5           and
- 6           (6) the education of anglers and local commu-
- 7           nities on the proper ways to handle lake sturgeon if
- 8           caught.

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