

population of this iconic species remains perilously small and vulnerable to yearly fluctuations, prompting the monarch butterfly to be proposed as threatened;

Whereas nearly 70 native pollinator species are listed by the Federal Government as threatened or endangered, with the rusty patched bumble bee, the Powesheik skipperling, and the Dakota skipper listed within the past decade; and

Whereas declines in the health and population of native pollinators potentially pose a substantial threat to global food webs, ecological diversity, and human health: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the designation of June 15 through June 22, 2025, as “National Pollinator Week”;

(2) acknowledges the significance that all types of pollinators play in sustaining agriculture, promoting biodiversity, and maintaining the overall health of natural ecosystems;

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Pollinator Week with appropriate ceremonies and conservation and educational activities; and

(4) intends to—

(A) continue working to conserve native pollinator species and their various habitats; and

(B) work to improve the overall understanding of the importance of native pollinators.

SENATE RESOLUTION 290—COMMEMORATING JUNE 19, 2025, AS “JUNETEENTH NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE DAY” IN RECOGNITION OF JUNE 19, 1865, THE DATE ON WHICH NEWS OF THE END OF SLAVERY REACHED THE SLAVES IN THE SOUTHWESTERN STATES

Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. KELLY, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. JUSTICE, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. KAINE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 290

Whereas news of the end of slavery did not reach the frontier areas of the United States, in particular the State of Texas and the other Southwestern States, until months after the conclusion of the Civil War, more than 2½ years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863;

Whereas, on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War had ended and the enslaved were free;

Whereas African Americans who had been slaves in the Southwest celebrated June 19, commonly known as “Juneteenth National Independence Day”, as inspiration and encouragement for future generations;

Whereas African Americans from the Southwest have continued the tradition of observing Juneteenth National Independence Day for more than 150 years;

Whereas Juneteenth National Independence Day began as a holiday in the State of Texas and is now a Federal holiday that is celebrated in all 50 States and the District of Columbia as a special day of observance in recognition of the emancipation of all slaves in the United States;

Whereas Juneteenth National Independence Day celebrations have been held to honor African-American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures;

Whereas the faith and strength of character demonstrated by former slaves and the descendants of former slaves remain an example for all people of the United States, regardless of background, religion, or race;

Whereas slavery was not officially abolished until the ratification of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States in December 1865; and

Whereas, over the course of its history, the United States has grown into a symbol of democracy and freedom around the world: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates June 19, 2025, as “Juneteenth National Independence Day”;

(2) recognizes the historical significance of Juneteenth National Independence Day to the United States;

(3) supports the continued nationwide celebration of Juneteenth National Independence Day to provide an opportunity for the people of the United States to learn more about the past and to better understand the experiences that have shaped the United States; and

(4) recognizes that the observance of the end of slavery is part of the history and heritage of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 291—CELEBRATING THE JUNE 2025 NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION SUMMIT IN THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS, AND REAFFIRMING PRIORITIES PERTAINING TO TRANSATLANTIC SECURITY AND OUR COMMITMENT TO NATO

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. TILLIS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 291

Whereas the June 2025 NATO Summit (also known as the “Hague Summit”), which will take place on June 24th and 25th, 2025 in the Hague, the Netherlands, will convene all 32 NATO Allies and many NATO Partners, including Ukraine and the Indo-Pacific nations of Australia, Japan, New Zealand, and the Republic of Korea;

Whereas the Hague Summit will take place during the fourth year of the Russian Federation’s unprovoked, illegal, full-scale war against Ukraine;

Whereas, following calls from the United States Government to increase defense spending among European Allies, the Hague Summit is expected to revise NATO Allies’ defense spending pledge from 2 percent of each country’s gross domestic product that was agreed to through the 2014 Wales Summit Declaration, to a reported target of 5 percent of each country’s gross domestic product, which includes a commitment to spend 1.5 percent of each country’s gross domestic product on investments in defense-related infrastructure and capabilities;

Whereas Article 10 of the North Atlantic Treaty, done at Washington April 4, 1949—

(1) establishes NATO’s open-door policy; and

(2) permits the admission of any European country whose government is willing and able to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic area and assume the requirements and responsibilities of membership;

Whereas NATO continues to provide critical leadership to maintain stability in the Western Balkans, particularly through the Kosovo Force (KFOR) and NATO Headquarters Sarajevo in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which closely coordinates with the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Operation Althea, the European Union force that is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the General Framework Agreement for Bosnia and Herzegovina (also known as the “Dayton Agreement” or the “Dayton Accords”), done at Dayton November 21, 1995;

Whereas each NATO communique since the Russian Federation’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine has acknowledged Russia as a significant and direct threat to NATO Allies;

Whereas the Russian Federation, in addition to continuing its campaign of aggression and violence against the people of Ukraine, has conducted hybrid warfare against NATO Allies, including by weaponizing its energy exports, destroying undersea cables, and perpetrating cyberattacks;

Whereas the Hague Summit will invite Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to discuss NATO’s continued support for Ukraine’s defense against Russian aggression.

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms the enduring bipartisan commitment of the United States Senate to the North Atlantic Treaty and the United States’ obligations to NATO’s collective defense under Article 5 of the Treaty;

(2)(A) welcomes increased defense spending by NATO Allies;

(B) recognizes that 23 NATO Allies have met their Wales Summit pledge to spend at least 2 percent of their gross domestic product on defense; and

(C) encourages the remaining NATO Allies to accelerate efforts to meet such target;

(3) welcomes the ambition of the Hague Summit to increase the defense and defense-related spending target to 5 percent of gross domestic product and encourages the United States Government to meet this benchmark;

(4) continues to support the open-door policy permitting any European nation to consider pursuing NATO membership;

(5)(A) acknowledges NATO’s role in promoting peace and stability in the Western Balkans; and

(B) encourages NATO to sustain a robust focus on this region, especially in Bosnia and Herzegovina; and

(6) welcomes NATO’s continued support for Ukraine through the Ukraine Defense Contact Group and the Comprehensive Assistance Package for Ukraine and encourages all NATO Allies to continue significant support for Ukraine in sustaining its fight against Russian aggression.

SENATE RESOLUTION 292—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JUNE 19, 2025, AS “WORLD SICKLE CELL AWARENESS DAY” IN ORDER TO INCREASE PUBLIC AWARENESS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES AND GLOBAL COMMUNITY ABOUT SICKLE CELL DISEASE AND THE CONTINUED NEED FOR EMPIRICAL RESEARCH, EARLY DETECTION SCREENINGS, NOVEL EFFECTIVE TREATMENTS LEADING TO A CURE, AND PREVENTATIVE CARE PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO COMPLICATIONS FROM SICKLE CELL ANEMIA AND CONDITIONS RELATING TO SICKLE CELL DISEASE

Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 292

Whereas sickle cell disease (referred to in this preamble as “SCD”) is a group of inherited red blood cell disorders, a genetic condition present at birth, and a major health problem in the United States and worldwide;

Whereas the 2025 theme of World Sickle Cell Awareness Day, “Global Action, Local Impact: Empowering Communities for Effective Self-Advocacy”, is an immediate call to bring voices together to improve the health and quality of life for individuals living with SCD and their families;

Whereas, in 1972, Dr. Charles Whitten co-founded the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America to improve research, education, and health care for SCD patients and which is now headquartered in Hanover, Maryland;

Whereas, in 1972, Congress passed the National Sickle Cell Anemia Control Act (Public Law 92-294; 86 Stat. 136), which, for the first time, provided authority to establish education, information, screening, testing, counseling, research, and treatment programs for SCD;

Whereas sickle cell trait (referred to in this preamble as “SCT”) is a gene mutation that causes a single misspelling in the DNA instructions for hemoglobin, a protein that aids in carrying oxygen in the blood, and can result in chronic complications for individuals living with SCD, including anemia, stroke, infections, organ failure, tissue damage, intense periods of pain referred to as vaso-occlusive crises, and even premature death;

Whereas SCT occurs when an individual inherits 1 copy of the sickle cell gene from 1 parent, and, although most individuals who have SCT live normal lives, when both parents have SCT, there is a 25 percent chance that any of their children will have SCD;

Whereas there are an estimated 1,000,000 to 3,000,000 individuals with SCT in the United States, with many unaware of their status;

Whereas an estimated 100,000 individuals have SCD in the United States, with 1 out of every 365 African-American births and 1 out of every 16,300 Hispanic-American births resulting in SCD, and nearly 1 out of 13 African-American babies are born with SCT;

Whereas SCD affects millions of individuals throughout the world, especially individuals of genetic descent from certain countries in sub-Saharan Africa, South and Central America, Saudi Arabia, India, and the Mediterranean basin;

Whereas the variance relating to the prevalence of SCT ranges greatly by region and demography, with overall rates as high as 40 percent in parts of Africa;

Whereas, in many countries that are poor in resources, 90 percent of children with SCD do not live to see adulthood;

Whereas approximately 1,000 children in Africa are born with SCD each day, more than ½ of whom will die before their fifth birthday;

Whereas, in 2006, the World Health Assembly passed a resolution, adopted by the United Nations in 2009, recognizing SCD as a public health priority with a call to action for each country to implement measures to tackle the disease, and in 2010, the World Health Assembly passed a resolution relating to preventing and managing birth defects, including SCD;

Whereas screening newborns for SCD is a crucial first step for families to obtain a timely diagnosis, to obtain comprehensive care, and to decrease the mortality rate for children with respect to SCD;

Whereas approved treatments for SCD are limited, with the Food and Drug Administration approving only 4 SCD therapies since 2017;

Whereas there is an immediate need for lifesaving therapeutics that can improve the duration and quality of life for individuals with SCD;

Whereas, in 2020, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine developed a comprehensive strategic plan and blueprint for action to address SCD, which highlights the need to develop new innovative therapies and to address barriers to the equitable access of approved treatments;

Whereas, in 2020, the Department of Health and Human Services, in partnership with the American Society of Hematology and the SickleInAfrica Consortium, and in collaboration with the World Health Organization, hosted a webinar for a joint effort to strengthen efforts to combat SCD during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond;

Whereas the late Kwaku Ohene-Frempong, M.D., Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics at the Perelman School of Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, an American Society of Hematology member who founded and served as a member of the Global Sickle Cell Disease Network, was a leader in advancing the body of knowledge in SCD research, public health, and medicine and is recognized as immeasurably benefitting thousands of children worldwide;

Whereas there are emerging genetic therapy technologies, including 2 therapies approved by the Food and Drug Administration in December of 2023, that can modify the hematopoietic stem cells of a patient to enable them to generate healthy red blood cells to prevent sickle cell crises;

Whereas hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (commonly known as “HSCT”) is currently the only cure for SCD, and while advancements in treatment for complications associated with SCD have been made, more research is needed to find widely available and accessible treatments and cures to help individuals with SCD; and

Whereas, although June 19, 2025, has been designated as “World Sickle Cell Awareness Day” to increase public awareness across the United States and global community about SCD, there remains a continued need for empirical research, early detection screenings, novel effective treatments leading to a cure, and preventative care programs with respect to complications from sickle cell anemia and conditions relating to SCD: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of World Sickle Cell Awareness Day;

(2) commits to ensuring equitable access to new sickle cell disease (referred to in this resolution as “SCD”) treatments by shining the light among all economic, racial, and

ethnic groups to improve health outcomes for individuals living with SCD;

(3) calls on the Department of Health and Human Services to create global policy solutions aimed at providing support for the global community with respect to SCD and, in partnership with local governments, the domestic resources needed to provide access to newborn screening programs, therapeutic interventions, and support services with respect to SCD;

(4) supports eliminating barriers to equitable access to innovative SCD therapies, including cell, gene, and gene-editing therapies in the Medicare and Medicaid systems for the most vulnerable patients;

(5) encourages the people of the United States and the world to hold appropriate programs, events, and activities on World Sickle Cell Awareness Day to raise public awareness of SCD traits, preventative-care programs, treatments, and other patient services for those suffering from SCD, complications from SCD, and conditions relating to SCD;

(6) encourages the President to form a Sickle Cell Disease Interagency Group, which should include the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the National Institutes of Health, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, to work toward policies that will support equitable and appropriate access to innovative SCD therapies; and

(7) with respect to the policies described in paragraph (6), urges the interagency group described in that paragraph to consider options that not only address access to potential future curative treatments for SCD, but also address the bias that the population most affected by SCD continues to face within the United States and global healthcare systems.

SENATE RESOLUTION 293—COMMENDING THE MINNESOTA FROST FOR WINNING THE 2025 PROFESSIONAL WOMEN’S HOCKEY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Ms. SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 293

Whereas, on May 26, 2025, the Minnesota Frost (referred to in this preamble as the “Frost”) won their second straight Walter Cup, beating the Ottawa Charge 2 to 1 in game 4 of the 2025 Professional Women’s Hockey League (referred to in this preamble as the “PWHL”) Championship Finals (referred to in this preamble as the “Championship”);

Whereas Frost Forward Liz Schepers, from Mound, Minnesota, scored the Championship-winning goal 12 minutes into overtime of the Championship-deciding game;

Whereas Frost Goaltender Maddie Rooney, from Andover, Minnesota, made 33 stops and finished the 2025 playoffs with a record of 5 wins and 0 losses;

Whereas the Frost and the Ottawa Charge played an exhilarating Championship series where all 4 games in the best-of-5 series went into overtime;

Whereas the Frost lost game 1 of the Championship series but came back to win 3 straight, including a triple-overtime game;

Whereas the Ottawa Charge Rookie Goaltender Gwyneth Philips won the 2025 Ilana Kloss Playoff MVP award in a losing effort;

Whereas the PWHL is commended for a great and entertaining second season;