

generate healthy red blood cells to prevent sickle cell crises;

Whereas hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (commonly known as “HSC-T”) 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, 2023, 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 256—RECOGNIZING FATHER’S DAY AND THE ROLE OF FATHER ENGAGEMENT IN IMPROVING THE OVERALL HEALTH AND LIFE OUTCOMES FOR BOTH THE MOTHER AND BABY

Mr. WARNOCK (for himself, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. BRAUN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 256

Whereas Father’s Day is celebrated on the third Sunday of June and will be celebrated in the United States on Sunday, June 18, 2023;

Whereas increased father engagement can play an important role in—

- (1) improving maternal health care;
- (2) addressing maternal mortality and morbidity in the United States;
- (3) bettering the development of the child; and
- (4) the long-term growth of the child;

Whereas research has found that supporting families holistically and actively by including and engaging fathers in all aspects of maternal health care, from preconception, through pregnancy, and during the first-year postpartum, can positively impact short term and long term health outcomes, improving—

(1) pregnancy and postpartum health, as when fathers are involved and engaged, mothers are—

(A) more likely to receive early and regular prenatal care;

(B) at reduced risk of perinatal mood and anxiety disorders (referred to in this preamble as “PMADs”);

(C) less likely to smoke, drink, or misuse drugs during the pregnancy and perinatal period;

(D) more likely to eat well and take recommended vitamins;

(E) more likely to follow the recommendations of a physician;

(F) less likely to experience complications during pregnancy and labor; and

(G) more likely to have a healthy, safe birth, and more likely to sustain breastfeeding; and

(2) the health and well-being of the baby, including—

(A) improving healthy development;

(B) improving outcomes in school;

(C) reducing rates of teen pregnancies;

(D) reducing risk of substance use; and

(E) improving future executive function;

Whereas methods to empower fathers as advocates for both mother and baby include—

(1) addressing cultural beliefs about fatherhood and the role of men in maternal health and families, especially beliefs that discourage father participation;

(2) peer-to-peer, father-to-father encouragement and support;

(3) involving fathers in prenatal and postpartum care;

(4) providing fathers with information about what to expect before, during, and after birth, and how a father can better understand and support their partner, as well as to help the mother and father bond together as a parenting team; and

(5) educating and engaging fathers in conversations and guidance about mental health, breastfeeding practices, health care appointments, safe sleep, physical touch, and father-child bonding and early childhood development;

Whereas 1 in 5 women experience a PMAD, with suicide being the leading cause of preventable maternal deaths;

Whereas the added support of father engagement reduces the risks of PMADs and contributes to—

- (1) a lower chance of preterm birth; and
- (2) a healthier birth weight;

Whereas the support of the father during pregnancy can help promote cessation of smoking, drinking, and drug use in the mother;

Whereas father involvement during pregnancy has been linked with a 36 percent reduction in smoking in a mother;

Whereas increasing outreach for fathers to join group prenatal care models and to at-

tend prenatal and postnatal appointments will help prepare both parents and create opportunities for the parents to view pregnancy and parenting as a team effort;

Whereas evidence shows that when fathers are involved during pregnancy appointments and milestones, mothers are 1.5 times more likely to receive prenatal care in the first trimester, which improves health outcomes for both the mother and baby;

Whereas the participation of the father during prenatal care appointments provides the mother with additional support to recognize potential pregnancy-related complications that could lead to maternal morbidity and mortality, such as—

- (1) preeclampsia;
- (2) preterm labor;
- (3) PMADs;
- (4) pregnancy loss or miscarriage;
- (5) stillbirth;
- (6) high blood pressure;
- (7) cervical infections;
- (8) gestational diabetes;
- (9) placental abruption;
- (10) ectopic pregnancy; and
- (11) uterine rupture;

Whereas physical contact between the father and the baby just after birth and in the months following birth has been shown to support and improve the health and development of the baby, improve the mental health of the father, and foster father-child bonding in the short term and long term;

Whereas studies show that engaging fathers in conversations about safe sleep guidelines can help increase safe sleep and reduce infant deaths;

Whereas providing fathers with guidance about infant crying and the risks of shaken baby syndrome can reduce infant deaths;

Whereas the active support of the father during breastfeeding greatly increases the chances of sustained breastfeeding, which improves the physical and mental health of the baby and the mother;

Whereas removing barriers to father engagement can encourage greater involvement during pregnancy, delivery, and parenthood, such as—

(1) offering moderated father support groups and classes;

(2) changing messaging about societal perceptions on the role of the father in pregnancy and parenting; and

(3) health care providers offering prenatal appointments outside of regular work hours, through telehealth and through take-home father-focused resources; and

Whereas support from a warm and emotionally responsive father improves the life and development of their child as the child grows into adolescence, as the child—

- (1) is less emotionally reactive;
- (2) experiences less depression;
- (3) is less prone to mood and anxiety disorders; and
- (4) relates better with other children;

Whereas the sustained involvement of a father with their child to the age of 7 helps negate the risk of psychological maladjustment;

Whereas a trusting relationship between a caring father and son will help the son grow into a strong father themselves;

Whereas a litany of research relates positive outcomes with increased father involvement with their child, including—

- (1) higher academic achievement;
- (2) better school readiness and performance;
- (3) higher self-esteem; and
- (4) greater social awareness;

Whereas the involvement of a loving father in the life of a 16-year-old child predicts less psychological distress for that child when they reach adulthood;

Whereas 1,300 step families are formed every day and 1 out of every 25 families with

children have adopted a child, demonstrating a variety of fatherhood experiences; and

Whereas the genuine love of a father is irreplaceable, and the positive externalities that coincide with the love of a father prove both the power of genuine affection and the responsibility fathers have in caring for their children: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the important role of fathers in increasing positive maternal health outcomes and reducing maternal mortality and morbidity;

(2) acknowledges that father engagement efforts provide continuous physical and emotional support, which can contribute to healthier pregnancies, safer deliveries, and successful postpartum recoveries;

(3) acknowledges that sustained engagement by a father throughout the life of their child is a privileged responsibility that fulfills the father as much as the child; and

(4) wishes all fathers and father figures in the United States a happy Father's Day.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 257—DESIGNATING JULY 19, 2023, AS “GLIOBLASTOMA AWARENESS DAY”

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KELLY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, and Mr. WARNOCK) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

##### S. RES. 257

Whereas approximately 14,490 new cases of glioblastoma will be diagnosed in the United States in 2023;

Whereas glioblastoma is—

(1) the most common malignant (cancerous) brain tumor, accounting for approximately ½ of all primary malignant brain tumors; and

(2) the most aggressive, complex, difficult to treat, and deadly type of brain tumor;

Whereas it is estimated that more than 10,000 individuals in the United States will succumb to glioblastoma each year;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for glioblastoma patients is only 6.9 percent, and the median length of survival for glioblastoma patients is only 8 months;

Whereas glioblastoma is described as a disease that affects the “essence of self”, as the treatment and removal of glioblastoma presents significant challenges due to the uniquely complex and fragile nature of the brain, the primary organ in the human body that controls not only cognitive ability, but also the actions of every organ and limb;

Whereas patients and caregivers play a critical role in furthering research for glioblastoma;

Whereas, relative to other types of cancers, brain cancer patients pay the second highest out-of-pocket costs for medical services in both the initial and end-of-life phases of care;

Whereas, although research advances may fuel the development of new treatments for glioblastoma, challenging obstacles to accelerating progress toward new treatments for glioblastoma remain, and there are no screening or early detection methods;

Whereas, in 2021, the World Health Organization reclassified brain tumors and made significant changes to the molecular characteristics of a glioblastoma diagnosis, necessitating critical biomarker testing for patients suspected of having a possible glioblastoma;

Whereas, although glioblastoma was first described in medical and scientific literature

in the 1920s, and despite its devastating prognosis, only 5 drugs and 1 medical device have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration to specifically treat glioblastoma since the 1920s, and the mortality rates associated with glioblastoma have changed little during the past 30 years;

Whereas, since the first Glioblastoma Awareness Day, the National Cancer Institute established the Glioblastoma Therapeutics Network (referred to in this preamble as “GTN”) in 2020 as part of a national infrastructure to enhance and support the discovery and development of glioblastoma therapies available for multi-institutional GTN teams to drive therapeutic agents through pre-clinical studies and early-phase clinical trials, which are necessary to rapidly evaluate potential treatments to advance toward cures and improved quality of life; and

Whereas there is a need for greater public awareness of glioblastoma, including awareness of both—

(1) the urgent unmet medical needs of glioblastoma patients; and

(2) the opportunities for research of, and treatment advances for, glioblastoma: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 19, 2023, as “Glioblastoma Awareness Day”;

(2) encourages increased public awareness of glioblastoma;

(3) honors the individuals who have died from the devastating disease of glioblastoma or are currently living with the disease;

(4) supports efforts to develop better treatments for glioblastoma that will improve the long-term prognosis for, and the quality of life of, individuals diagnosed with the disease;

(5) recognizes the importance of molecular biomarker testing to the diagnosis and treatment of glioblastoma;

(6) expresses support for the individuals who are battling brain tumors, as well as the families, friends, and caregivers of those individuals;

(7) urges a collaborative approach to brain tumor research among governmental, private, and nonprofit organizations, which is a promising means of advancing the understanding and treatment of glioblastoma; and

(8) encourages continued investments in glioblastoma research and treatments, including through the Glioblastoma Therapeutics Network and other existing brain tumor research resources.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. HEINRICH. Madam President, I have five requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

##### COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 10 a.m.

##### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is author-

ized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 10 a.m.

##### COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

##### SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

The Special Committee on Aging is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

##### SUBCOMMITTEE ON CHEMICAL SAFETY, WASTE MANAGEMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE, AND REGULATORY OVERSIGHT

The Subcommittee on Chemical Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Justice, and Regulatory Oversight of the Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, June 15, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

#### PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the following associates who are working with me this summer in my office be granted floor privileges until June 16, 2023: Ms. Lauren Gachassin and Ms. Jolea Simpson.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RECOGNIZING FATHER'S DAY

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 256, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 256) recognizing Father's Day and the role of father engagement in improving the overall health and life outcomes for both the mother and baby.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 256) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

#### GLIOBLASTOMA AWARENESS DAY

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 257, which is at the desk.