

1-1 By: Johnson of Harris (Senate Sponsor - Miles) H.C.R. No. 117
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 6, 2019;
 1-3 May 7, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Administration; May 19, 2019, reported favorably by the following
 1-5 vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 19, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Hughes	X			
1-8 Fallon	X			
1-9 Huffman			X	
1-10 Johnson	X			
1-11 Menéndez	X			
1-12 Nichols			X	
1-13 Zaffirini	X			

1-15 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-16 WHEREAS, Sickle cell disease is a hereditary genetic mutation
 1-17 that causes the body to produce red blood cells with an abnormal
 1-18 crescent shape, resulting in impeded blood flow and a shortage of
 1-19 healthy red blood cells; and

1-20 WHEREAS, According to the United States Centers for Disease
 1-21 Control and Prevention, sickle cell disease affects approximately
 1-22 100,000 Americans; the condition is far more common among black or
 1-23 African Americans, occurring in about 1 out of every 365
 1-24 individuals, and the sickle cell trait is present in 1 in every 13
 1-25 black or African American infants at birth; around 1 in every 16,300
 1-26 Hispanic American newborns also suffers from the condition; and

1-27 WHEREAS, Although most Americans with the sickle cell trait
 1-28 live normal lives with few complications, sickle cell disease can
 1-29 potentially lead to anemia, infections, chronic pain, deep vein
 1-30 thrombosis, pulmonary embolism, and stroke; because severe cases
 1-31 can be life-threatening, it is imperative that affected individuals
 1-32 have ready access to comprehensive medical care; sadly, inadequate
 1-33 infrastructure and socioeconomic factors are responsible for
 1-34 considerable disparities in health outcomes for sickle cell
 1-35 patients; and

1-36 WHEREAS, The Sickle Cell Anemia Control Act, which was signed
 1-37 into law by President Richard Nixon in 1972, aimed to "reverse the
 1-38 record of neglect of the dreaded disease" by increasing funding for
 1-39 sickle cell disease-related programs; National Sickle Cell Anemia
 1-40 Awareness Month was officially recognized by the federal government
 1-41 under the administration of President Ronald Reagan in 1983, and
 1-42 additional legislative acts focused on advancing the treatment,
 1-43 detection, and study of the disease were passed in 2003 and 2018;
 1-44 and

1-45 WHEREAS, At this time, there is still no widely available or
 1-46 universal cure for sickle cell disease, but researchers are
 1-47 currently working to identify new treatments; greater public
 1-48 support remains an important tool in the fight against this
 1-49 debilitating disorder, and Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month in
 1-50 September serves as an opportunity to unite Texans around the goal
 1-51 of ensuring that all people with the condition are afforded the care
 1-52 that they need; now, therefore, be it

1-53 RESOLVED, That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas
 1-54 hereby designate September as Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month;
 1-55 and, be it further

1-56 RESOLVED, That in accordance with the provisions of Section
 1-57 391.004(d), Government Code, this designation remain in effect
 1-58 until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally
 1-59 passed by the legislature.

1-60 * * * * *