

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 679

Expressing support for the designation of the week beginning on September 10, 2023, as “Celebrate Community Week”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. PANETTA, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania, Mr. GOTTHEIMER, and Ms. CRAIG) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of the week beginning on September 10, 2023, as “Celebrate Community Week”.

Whereas “Celebrate Community” is a weeklong initiative to promote joint community service among members of Lions Clubs International, Rotary International, Kiwanis International, and Optimist International, and the purpose is to elevate the collective social impact of the organizations and promote a spirit of worldwide volunteer collaboration;

Whereas, from September 10 through September 16, thousands of local area Kiwanis, Lions, Optimist International, and Rotary clubs will take part in service to address the needs of their communities during their second annual Celebrate Community initiative;

Whereas Kiwanis clubs change children's lives by conducting service projects in their local communities focused on health and nutrition, education and literacy, and youth development;

Whereas Kiwanis clubs conduct more than 152,000 service projects globally and raise nearly \$133,000,000 annually;

Whereas Lions clubs encourage service-minded individuals to serve their communities without personal financial reward;

Whereas, since 1917, Lions 1,400,000 members have strengthened local communities through hands-on service and humanitarian projects, focused on the environment and addressing childhood cancer, hunger, diabetes, vision, and other pressing humanitarian needs presenting some of the biggest challenges facing humanity;

Whereas, carrying the motto "Bringing Out the Best in Youth, in our Communities, and in Ourselves", Optimist International clubs conduct positive service projects that reach more than 6,000,000 young people each year;

Whereas Optimist International clubs conduct 65,000 community service projects each year, spending \$78,000,000 in their communities and impacting over 6,000,000 youth;

Whereas Rotary's 1,400,000 members believe we have a shared responsibility to take action on the world's most persistent issues with sustainable, community-based solutions; and

Whereas 46,000 Rotary clubs invest hundreds of millions of dollars and countless volunteer hours to provide clean water and sanitation, support education, prevent and treat disease, save mothers and children, grow local

economies, promote peace, protect the environment, and end polio worldwide: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the designation of Celebrate Com-
3 munity Week;

4 (2) recognizes Kiwanis International, Lions
5 Clubs International, Optimist International, and Ro-
6 tary International for promoting community service
7 and humanitarian assistance;

8 (3) encourages Kiwanis International, Lions
9 Clubs International, Optimist International, and Ro-
10 tary International to continue to emphasize the val-
11 ues of community service and improving the commu-
12 nity for all individuals, especially our youth;

13 (4) applauds Kiwanis International, Lions
14 Clubs International, Optimist International, and Ro-
15 tary International for instilling in young people the
16 value of community service; and

17 (5) appreciates Kiwanis International, Lions
18 Clubs International, Optimist International, and Ro-
19 tary International for the work of their members to
20 continue to strengthen our communities through
21 service.

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