

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 271

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Community Gardening Awareness Week.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2017

Ms. DUCKWORTH submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of National Community Gardening Awareness Week.

Whereas countless families in the United States live with hunger every day and do not have access to fresh produce in their neighborhoods;

Whereas community gardens conserve limited resources and promote sustainability;

Whereas community gardens provide an important and nutritious source of fresh produce donations for local food pantries and social service agencies;

Whereas community gardens enable individuals to gain control over the quality, variety, and cost of their food supply;

Whereas community gardening encourages individuals of diverse cultural and economic backgrounds to work together, foster a better sense of community, and improve the quality of their lives;

Whereas community-based youth and school gardening programs encourage personal self-esteem and healthy attitudes toward learning;

Whereas community gardening and greening projects provide a catalyst for neighborhood and community development;

Whereas community gardens reduce city heat and preserve open spaces for present and future generations;

Whereas community gardens and other green spaces—

(1) provide a more livable environment in municipalities throughout the United States; and

(2) present a positive local image to the residents of, and visitors to, a community;

Whereas community gardens help provide local food banks with fresh produce for individuals in need; and

Whereas the last week of September 2017 is an appropriate week to designate as “National Community Gardening Awareness Week”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate supports the goals and
2 ideals of National Community Gardening Awareness
3 Week, including—

4 (1) raising awareness of the importance of com-
5 munity gardens and urban agriculture;

6 (2) improving access to public land for the de-
7 velopment of sustainable food projects;

1 (3) encouraging further growth of community
2 gardens and other opportunities that increase food
3 self-reliance, improve fitness, contribute to a cleaner
4 environment, and enhance community development;
5 and

6 (4) supporting cooperative efforts among Fed-
7 eral, State, and local governments and nonprofit or-
8 ganizations—

9 (A) to promote the development and ex-
10 pansion of community gardens; and

11 (B) to increase the accessibility of commu-
12 nity gardens to disadvantaged population
13 groups.

○