

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 58

Designating the honeybee as the national insect.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 1993

Mr. NEAL of North Carolina introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service

JOINT RESOLUTION

Designating the honeybee as the national insect.

Whereas the honeybee has been recognized since biblical times as an embodiment of the virtues of industry, ingenuity, thrift, and selflessness, qualities that reflect some of the most basic and honored ideals of the Nation;

Whereas the honeybee is an unsung yet essential link in the chain of American agriculture, pollinating an estimated 19 billion dollars' worth of crops annually;

Whereas the honeybee population is declining under pressure from urbanization and the misuse of pesticides, resulting in a loss of honey and beeswax and in reduced yields of fruits, vegetables, flowers, and shrubs because of inadequate pollination;

Whereas concern for the honeybee has created public awareness of the urgent need to preserve and protect these valuable creatures;

Whereas at the present time honeybees are kept in all 50 of the United States;

Whereas many communities across the Nation hold annual festivals of art, crafts, and music in honor of the honeybee;

Whereas the Postal Service honored the honeybee by issuing a 25-cent stamp on September 2, 1988, in Omaha, Nebraska, and an embossed envelope on October 10, 1980, in Paris, Illinois;

Whereas 18 States have already adopted the honeybee as their official State insect, and Utah is nicknamed the “Beehive State” in honor of the honeybee; and

Whereas it would be in the best interests of the people of the United States for the honeybee to be adopted as our national insect: Now, therefore, be it

- 1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
- 2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 That the insect commonly known as the honeybee is des-
- 4 igned and adopted as the national insect of the United
- 5 States, and the President is authorized and requested to
- 6 declare such fact by proclamation.

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