119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

# S. RES. _____

Honoring the life and legacy of Fiona the hippopotamus of the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, and expressing the gratitude of the Senate to the staff of the Cincinnati Zoo for their extraordinary care and dedication.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Mr. MORENO submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

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# RESOLUTION

Honoring the life and legacy of Fiona the hippopotamus of the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, and expressing the gratitude of the Senate to the staff of the Cincinnati Zoo for their extraordinary care and dedication.

Whereas Fiona, a Nile hippopotamus at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, was born in January 2017, 6 weeks premature and weighing only 29 pounds, the smallest premature hippopotamus known to survive in human care;

Whereas Fiona overcame extraordinary odds from the day of her birth, growing into a robust animal who captured the hearts of millions of people around the world through her

resilience, personality, and daily updates shared by the Cincinnati Zoo;

Whereas Fiona became an icon of the State of Ohio, inspiring children and families, generating widespread interest in wildlife and conservation, and serving as a beloved ambassador for her species;

Whereas Fiona would have turned 10 years old in January 2027, and in her nearly 10 years of life she brought joy, wonder, and a sense of shared community to Ohioans and people across the United States;

Whereas, on November 8, 2026, Fiona accidentally ingested a knit hat that entered her habitat, creating a serious medical emergency;

Whereas the veterinarians, animal keepers, and entire animal care team at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden worked tirelessly and heroically around the clock, employing every available medical and supportive measure in an effort to save Fiona's life;

Whereas, despite those dedicated efforts, Fiona passed away on November 19, 2026, leaving a profound sense of loss among her Cincinnati Zoo family and the countless people who loved her; and

Whereas the staff of the Cincinnati Zoo demonstrated the highest standards of professional excellence, compassion, and commitment to animal welfare throughout Fiona's life and in her final days: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved,* That the Senate—

(1) honors the life and enduring legacy of Fiona the hippopotamus of the Cincinnati Zoo and Botan-

ical Garden, whose story of resilience and joy enriched the lives of millions;

(2) expresses deep gratitude and appreciation to the veterinarians, keepers, and entire staff of the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden for their tireless work, professional excellence, and compassionate care of Fiona throughout her life and during her final medical emergency;

(3) extends heartfelt condolences to the Cincinnati Zoo family and to all those who were touched by Fiona's life; and

(4) recognizes Fiona as a lasting symbol of the spirit and heart of the State of Ohio.