

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 649

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

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 15, 2009

Ms. MATSUI (for herself, Mr. INSLEE, and Ms. NORTON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

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# RESOLUTION

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

Whereas countless American families live with hunger every day;

Whereas countless American families 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 Americans 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 a healthy attitude 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 both present and future generations;

Whereas community gardens and other green spaces provide a more livable environment in American municipalities and present a positive local image to a community's residents and visitors; and

Whereas August is an appropriate month to designate as National Community Gardening Awareness Month: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives supports  
 2 the goals and ideals of National Community Gardening  
 3 Awareness Month, including—

4            (1) raising awareness about the importance of  
 5        community gardens and urban agriculture;

6            (2) improving access to public land for the cre-  
 7        ation 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 to promote the development and expan-  
9           sion of community gardens and to increase their ac-  
10          cessibility to disadvantaged population groups.

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