



## Legislation Text

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**To proclaim the month of September as Sickie Cell Disease Awareness Month in the City of Columbus and recognize the Faith Thomas Foundation, Nationwide Children's Hospital and the Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center for their ground breaking partnership in advocating for holistic care for Sickie Cell patients.**

**WHEREAS**, the observance of National Sickie Cell Disease Awareness Month originated in 1975 with month-long events to call attention to sickle cell disease and the need to address the problem nationally and locally; and

**WHEREAS**, sickle cell disease is a global health problem affecting more than 100,000 people in the United States, touching people of all races, and in some is characterized by chronic fatigue and pain; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that more than 1000 babies are born with sickle cell disease in the United States each year and while much has been done in the last 100 years to improve treatment, lower complications, and reduce symptoms for persons afflicted with this disease; there continues to be a gap in the care that is provided between children and adults; and

**WHEREAS**, the partnership between Nationwide Children's Hospital Sickie Cell and Thalassemia and the sickle cell program at The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center was created to bridge this gap by improving the health outcomes and services provided to sickle cell patients transitioning from childhood to adulthood; creating a project which would include a combined clinic providing education and psychological support to patients with sickle cell disease; and

**WHEREAS**, the Faith Thomas Foundation was born out of a vision to support this effort; successfully hosting a day of fundraising featuring a golf tournament, a dinner party, a silent auction and educational presentations; and

**WHEREAS**, Nationwide Children's Hospital and the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, and the Faith Thomas Foundation each believe that the bringing together of hospitals and medical professionals, the creation of peer mentoring opportunities, and other efforts will enhance the quality of life for sickle cell patients transitioning from childhood to adulthood; now therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS,**

**That this Council does hereby proclaim September as Sickie Cell Disease Awareness Month and recognize and celebrate the work of the Faith Thomas foundation and the partnerships that have been established between Nationwide Children's Hospital and the Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center in their advocacy and efforts to promote holistic patient care for persons affected with sickle cell disease.**