

119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. J. RES. 138

Expressing support for the designation of the second Saturday of January as “National Desert Day”.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 8, 2026

Mr. RUIZ submitted the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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## **JOINT RESOLUTION**

Expressing support for the designation of the second Saturday of January as “National Desert Day”.

Whereas a desert is defined as an arid land with usually sparse vegetation, especially such land having a very warm climate and receiving less than 25 centimeters (10 inches) of sporadic rainfall annually;

Whereas there are 4 major deserts in the United States, which are the Mojave Desert, the Sonoran Desert, the Chihuahuan Desert, and the Great Basin Desert;

Whereas there is growing concern in the United States and globally for environmental protection and the threats to desert habitats and conservation initiatives;

Whereas all living things are intertwined by sharing ecosystems, and desert ecosystems contain biodiversity that

only exist in deserts and rely on sustainable practices;  
and

Whereas deserts are among of the most significant ecosystems in the country due to their unique biodiversity, ecological functions, and cultural importance: 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 Congress—

4           (1) supports the designation of “National  
5 Desert Day” and requests the President to issue a  
6 proclamation calling upon the people of the United  
7 States to observe such day with appropriate programs,  
8 ceremonies, and activities;

9           (2) acknowledges that deserts are a crucial stop  
10 for migrating birds to spend the winter and are part  
11 of supporting global biodiversity;

12          (3) reaffirms its advocacy for native landscapes  
13 by committing to reduce invasive plant species and  
14 continue to maintain a pollinator garden;

15          (4) honors the ongoing efforts by the United  
16 States to educate citizens on their role in conserving  
17 desert biodiversity; and

1           (5) encourages the pursuit of policies that en-  
2           sure the protection and preservation of the world's  
3           deserts.

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