SPECIAL RESOLUTION **PROCLAIMING** WORLD SICKLE CELL AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS, June 19th has been designated as World Sickle Cell Awareness Day, an international awareness day observed annually with the goal to increase public knowledge and an understanding of sickle cell disease, and the challenges experienced by patients, their families and caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Sickle cell anemia is an inherited blood disorder that mostly affects people of African ancestry, but also occurs in other ethnic groups, including people who are of Mediterranean and Middle Eastern descent; and

WHEREAS, sickle cell disease is a complex genetic disorder characterized by chronic anemia, episodes of debilitating pain and damage to vital organs; and

WHEREAS, early identification of a child with sickle cell disease coupled with antibiotic prophylaxis by 3 months of age and early intervention services, helps those with sickle cell disease while researchers continue to search for a cure; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana remains dedicated to the provision of sickle cell screening, education, and medical care for individuals and families living with sickle cell disease through its support of the Louisiana Department of Community Health's Newborn Screening Program and the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America; and

WHERAS, Caddo Parish remains dedicated to public health and awareness of conditions like Sickle Cell Disease which impact citizens across parish, state, nation and global communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Caddo Parish Commission, meeting in legal and regular session this 16th day of June, 2025 that it does hereby proclaim June 19th, 2025 as:

'WORLD SICKLE CELL AWARENESS DAY'

in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and urges all citizens to join with the Parish in recognition of this important day by staying aware of sickle cell disease and, where possible, sharing that awareness others.

ATTEST: