

Support Bill C-221: An Act respecting a comprehensive National strategy for Sickle Cell Disease and Thalassemic Disorders

PETITION to the House of Commons in Parliament assembled

WHEREAS sickle cell and thalassemic disorders are inherited and result in abnormal or inadequate haemoglobin production in affected;

WHEREAS the life span of persons with severe sickle cell disease can be reduced by as much as 30 years;

WHEREAS an estimated 5 -25% of Canadians of African, Caribbean, Mediterranean and Asian descent carries the trait gene for sickle cell and thalassemia;

WHEREAS sickle cell disease can lead to severe chronic pain, serious bacterial infections and acute and chronic organ damage;

WHEREAS Ontario and British Columbia are the only provinces in Canada that have universal newborn screening programs for sickle cell disease;

WHEREAS the management of sickle cell and thalassemic disorders does not uniformly conform to the highest standards in Canada;

WHEREAS greater public awareness of these diseases and systematic genetic testing could be helpful in control and management of these disorders across Canada;

WHEREAS the Parliament of Canada believes that the prospects and life circumstances of patients suffering from sickle cell disease and thalassemic disorders must be improved through the development of a comprehensive national strategy for patient care;

THEREFORE, we, the undersigned, residents of Canada, call upon the House of Commons in Parliament assembled to adopt the Bill entitled An Act respecting a Comprehensive National Strategy for Sickle Cell Disease and Thalassemic Disorders (numbered Bill C-221 in the 41st Parliament).

Name (printed)	Address (printed)	Signature	Email Address (print)

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