

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 51

Senators Damoose, Bumstead, Hoitenga, Hauck, McBroom, Bayer, Cavanagh, Chang, Geiss, Polehanki and Santana offered the following resolution:

1       A resolution to commemorate May 21, 2025, as Cherry Industry  
2 Day.

3       Whereas, One of the most beautiful sites in Michigan or  
4 anywhere in the world during the month of May is the blossoming of  
5 the cherry trees; and

6       Whereas, Michigan is the number one cherry producing state in  
7 the nation and is the unofficial "Cherry Capitol of the World"; and

8       Whereas, Our state hosts the world's largest cherry  
9 celebration, the National Cherry Festival. It takes place each July  
10 in Traverse City, Michigan, welcoming more than 500,000 people to  
11 celebrate and promote cherries, community involvement, and the  
12 Grand Traverse region; and

1       Whereas, In 1926, the first "Blessing of the Blossoms  
2 Festival" was held on this date before evolving into the National  
3 Cherry Festival as we know it today; and

4       Whereas, The United States (U.S.) produces about 610 million  
5 pounds of sweet and tart cherries each year, with Michigan  
6 producing the largest tart cherry crop. An average of almost 250  
7 million pounds of tart cherries are harvested each year, with 75  
8 percent coming from our state; and

9       Whereas, Cherries contain powerful antioxidants that may help  
10 fight cancer, heart disease, and relieve pain associated with  
11 arthritis. Tart cherries are especially high in the antioxidant  
12 melatonin, which may help prevent or reduce brain deterioration  
13 associated with aging. Additionally, cherries are high in vitamin A  
14 and beta-carotene; and

15       Whereas, The Cherry Marketing Institute (CMI) was formed in  
16 1988 and is funded by U.S. tart cherry growers. The goal of the CMI  
17 is to increase the use of cherries through promotion, market  
18 expansion, product development, and research; and

19       Whereas, Growers, processors, and merchants continue to  
20 support the Grand Traverse region with community support and a push  
21 promote the impact and benefits of the cherry harvest; now,  
22 therefore, be it

23       Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative  
24 body commemorate May 21, 2025, as Cherry Industry Day.