

Chair Burdick, members of the committee, for the record my name is Kathleen Taylor. I am the State Senator for Senate District 21.

I was pleased to be asked to be the senate champion for House Concurrent Resolution 27. This resolution recognizes the outstanding achievements of the Portland Thorns.

The Thorns are an incredibly successful team, with four of the players being chosen to play for team USA in the FIFA world cup this summer (who, I must note are not paid equally to the men's World Cup team. As we all voted in support of pay equity, I think we can agree that this discrepancy is wrong.)

They have won two league championships and attract record-setting crowds.

The Thorns are more than just a soccer team. They are role models to young athletes. They are active community members in Portland. They are phenomenal players who bring acclaim to our state.

This resolution gives the Thorns the recognition they have deserved for years.

Thank you, Madame Chair, members of the committee. I urge your aye vote.