



## Call to Action – S.C.R. No.14, H.C.R. No. 31 Resolution Declaring Racism a Public Health Crisis

- I. Resolution Declaring Racism a Public Health Crisis
- II. Statues in the House of Representatives and Senate
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### **I. Proposed Resolution Background**

The Legislative Black Caucus introduced concurrent resolutions in the House and Senate declaring racism a public health crisis. These resolutions contain identical text, and have been introduced to the Senate Health, Human Services, and Medicaid Committee and the House State and Local Government Committee. In both the House and Senate, resolutions must receive at least one hearing in committee. If the committee is persuaded by proponent testimony and votes to pass the resolution to the House/Senate floor, the entire body will have the opportunity to vote in favor of adopting the resolution.

Unlike a bill, a concurrent resolution does not require the Governor's signature to take effect. Also unlike a bill, a concurrent resolution does not alter the Ohio Revised Code. Instead, it establishes recognitions, work groups, or processes. House Concurrent Resolution Number 31 (H.C.R. No. 31) and Senate Concurrent Resolution Number 14 (S.C.R. No. 14) declare racism a public health crisis and:

- create a dedicated workgroup;
- create a publicly accessible glossary of terms and definitions concerning racism and health equity;
- promote community engagement and provide tools for government agencies to engage actively and authentically with communities of color; continue to work to build alliances with organizations that have a legacy and track record of confronting racism;
- encourage community partners and stakeholders in the education, employment, housing, and criminal justice and safety arenas to recognize racism as a public health crisis and take appropriate action; continue to promote racially equitable economic and workforce development in Ohio;
- continue to promote racially equitable hiring and promotion of all employees including state employees;
- provide training to all elected officials, staff, funders, and grantees on workplace biases and how to mitigate them;
- promote and encourage all policies that prioritize the health of people of color; support local, state, regional, and federal initiatives that advance efforts to dismantle systematic racism and mitigate exposure to adverse childhood experiences and trauma;
- incorporate educational efforts to address and dismantle racism and to expand understanding of racism and how racism affects individual and population health; and



## II. Status in the House of Representatives & Senate

H.C.R. No. 31 (Sponsors Representative Howse and Crawley) was referred to the House State and Local Government Committee. This committee has not scheduled a meeting for this week and thus does not have a hearing set for this resolution. As emphasized above, resolutions do not require committee referral or committee hearings. S.C.R. No. 14 (Sponsors Craig and Williams) was referred to the Senate Health, Human Services, and Medicaid Committee. Chair Burke has scheduled two hearings on this bill, but no vote. As in the House, committee hearings are not required. We urge our members to directly contact House and Senate leadership to demand a floor vote.

As always, we encourage supporters to use their own words. However, as time is of the essence, we are providing the template below for your use should you choose.

## III. Template Emails of Support

### House Email:

**To Line:** Rep04@ohiohouse.gov; Rep34@ohiohouse.gov, Rep41@ohiohouse.gov

**CC:** Rep11@ohiohouse.gov; Rep26@ohiohouse.gov

**BCC** (if possible, so OAESV can track progress): ccrary@oaesv.org

**Subject Line:** Urgent Support for H.C.R. No. 31

### Optional Email Text:

Speaker Cupp & Members of House Leadership:

My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I live in \_\_\_\_\_, Ohio. I urge you to support House Concurrent Resolution Number 31. As H.C.R. No. 31 specifically cites, the American Medical Association and American Public Health Association report racism as a driving force in staggering disparate health outcomes for Black Ohioans. Specifically, Black Ohioans experience higher mortality rates from heart disease, cancer, stroke and diabetes, higher rates of maternal morbidity and infant mortality, higher rates of poverty, and higher rates of incarceration, among many others. House Concurrent Resolution Number 31 declares racism a public health crisis and establishes specific strategies to begin dismantling it.

I am an Ohioan. I support H.C.R. No. 31. We have waited far too long to start this work, we must not wait another day. **I urge you to schedule a floor vote as soon as is procedurally permissible.**

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_



**Senate Email:**

**To Line:** obhof@ohiosenate.gov; yuko@ohiosenate.gov

**CC:** williams@ohiosenate.gov; craig@ohiosenate.gov

**BCC** (if possible, so OAESV can track progress): ccrary@oaesv.org

**Subject Line:** Urgent Support for H.C.R. No. 31

**Subject Line:** Urgent Support for S.C.R. No. 14

**Optional Email Text:**

President Obhof, Leader Yuko, & Members of Senate Leadership:

My name is \_\_\_\_\_, and I live in \_\_\_\_\_, Ohio. I urge you to support House Concurrent Resolution Number 14. As S.C.R. No. 14 specifically cites, the American Medical Association and American Public Health Association report racism as a driving force in staggering disparate health outcomes for Black Ohioans. Specifically, Black Ohioans experience higher mortality rates from heart disease, cancer, stroke and diabetes, higher rates of maternal morbidity and infant mortality, higher rates of poverty, and higher rates of incarceration, among many others. House Concurrent Resolution Number 31 declares racism a public health crisis and establishes specific strategies to begin dismantling it.

I am an Ohioan. I support S.C.R. No. 14. We have waited far too long to start this work, we must not wait another day. **I urge you to schedule a floor vote as soon as is procedurally permissible.**

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_



#### IV. Additional Contacts for Optional Additional Support

If your schedule permits, we recommend sending individual emails to the following lawmakers urging support.

#### Contact Information for House and Senate Leadership

##### Senate

- President: Senator Larry Obhof
  - [obhof@ohiosenate.gov](mailto:obhof@ohiosenate.gov)
  - 614-466-7505
  - 1 Capitol Square, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- President Pro Tempore: Senator Bob Peterson
  - [peterson@ohiosenate.gov](mailto:peterson@ohiosenate.gov)
  - 614-466-8156
  - 1 Capitol Square, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Majority Floor Leader: Senator Matt Huffman
  - [mhuffman@ohiosenate.gov](mailto:mhuffman@ohiosenate.gov)
  - 614-466-7584
  - 1 Capitol Square, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Majority Whip: Senator Jay Hottinger
  - [hottinger@ohiosenate.gov](mailto:hottinger@ohiosenate.gov)
  - 614-466-5838
  - 1 Capitol Square, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Minority Leader: Senator Kenny Yuko
  - [yuko@ohiosenate.gov](mailto:yuko@ohiosenate.gov)
  - 614-466
  - 1 Capitol Square, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Assistant Minority Leader: Senator Cecil Thomas
  - [thomas@ohiosenate.gov](mailto:thomas@ohiosenate.gov)
  - 614-466-5980
  - 1 Capitol Square, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Minority Whip: Senator Sean J. O'Brien
  - [obrien@ohiosenate.gov](mailto:obrien@ohiosenate.gov)
  - 614-466-7182
  - 1 Capitol Square, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Assistant Minority Whip: Senator Sandra R. Williams
  - [williams@ohiosenate.gov](mailto:williams@ohiosenate.gov)
  - 614-466-4857



- 1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215

## House

- Speaker of the House: Representative Robert Cupp
  - [Rep04@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep04@ohiohouse.gov)
  - 614-466-2500
  - 77 S High Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Speaker Pro Tempore: Representative Jim Butler
  - [Rep41@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep41@ohiohouse.gov)
  - 614-466-6008
  - 77 S High Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Majority Floor Leader: Representative Bill Seitz
  - [Rep30@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep30@ohiohouse.gov)
  - 614-466-8258
  - 77 S High Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Assistant Majority Floor Leader: Representative Anthony DeVitis
  - [Rep36@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep36@ohiohouse.gov)
  - 614-466-1790
  - 77 S High Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Majority Whip: Representative Jay Edwards
  - [Rep94@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep94@ohiohouse.gov)
  - 614-466-2158
  - 77 S High Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Assistant Majority Whip: Representative Laura Lanese
  - [Rep23@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep23@ohiohouse.gov)
  - 614-466-9690
  - 77 S High Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Minority Leader: Representative Emilia Strong Sykes
  - [Rep34@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep34@ohiohouse.gov)
  - 614-466-3100
  - 77 S High Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Assistant Minority Leader: Representative Kristin Boggs
  - [Rep18@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep18@ohiohouse.gov)
  - 614-466-1896
  - 77 S High Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Minority Whip: Representative Paula Hicks Hudson
  - [Rep44@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep44@ohiohouse.gov)
  - 614-466-1401
  - 77 S High Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215
- Assistant Minority Whip: Representative Richard D. Brown
  - [Rep20@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Rep20@ohiohouse.gov)
  - 614-644-6002



- 77 S High Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215