As Introduced

134th General Assembly Regular Session 2021-2022

S. C. R. No. 6

Senators Maharath, Craig

Cosponsors: Senators Thomas, Yuko, Antonio

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend refugee communities in Ohio.

1

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING):

WHEREAS, According to the United Nations High Commissioner	2
for Refugees (UNHCR), in 2019, 79.5 million displaced people	3
were forced from their homes globally, more than any time in	4
recorded history, including 26 million refugees; and	5
WHEREAS, The UNHCR states that refugees are people who have	6
fled their country because they have a well-founded fear of	7
persecution due to their race, religion, nationality, political	8
opinion, or membership in a particular social group; and	9
WHEREAS, The UNHCR defines resettlement as the transfer of	10
refugees from an asylum country to another state that has agreed	11
to admit them and grant them permanent residence; this occurs	12
when refugees cannot return to their home country and live in	13
perilous situations or have specific needs that cannot be	14
addressed in the country where they initially sought protection;	15
and	16
WHEREAS, Resettlement to the United States is available	17
only for those who demonstrate the greatest and most immediate	18
need for protection and takes place only after eligible refugees	19

S. C. R. No. 6
As Introduced

undergo a rigorous selection, security vetting, and medical	20
screening process; and	21
WHEREAS, Ohio is home to a diverse population of refugees	22
and immigrants who have enhanced the economic vitality and	23
cultural richness of this state; independent research conducted	24
on behalf of the Refugee Services Collaborative of Greater	25
Cleveland estimated that in 2016, refugees generated a total	26
economic impact of \$82.2 million in spending in the Cleveland	27
area alone; and	28
WHEREAS, In addition to the benefits refugees provide to	29
the state of Ohio, the U.S. Department of State recently	30
reported that a robust refugee admissions program is critical to	31
foreign policy interests and national security objectives; and	32
WHEREAS, Ohio has been an example of a hospitable and	33
welcoming place to all newcomers, where the contributions of	34
everyone are celebrated and valued, and residents of Ohio aspire	35
to live up to the highest ideals of acceptance and equality by	36
treating newcomers with decency and respect, building a vibrant	37
community for all; now therefore be it	38
RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 134th General	39
Assembly of the State of Ohio, commend refugee communities in	40
Ohio for their many contributions to the beauty and richness of	41
Ohio's diversity and for their work to make this state a place	42
where all are welcome, accepted, and appreciated; and be it	43
further	44
RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly	45
authenticated copies of this resolution to the Office of Refugee	46
Services in the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to be	47
distributed to Ohio refugee resettlement agencies, on behalf of	48
refugee communities in Ohio, as an expression of the General	49
Assembly's admiration for the importance of these communities to	50

S. C. R. No. 6 As Introduced	Page 3
the state of Ohio; and be it further	51
RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly	52
authenticated copies of this resolution to the news media of	53
Ohio.	54