

**As Introduced**

**131st General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2015-2016**

**S. C. R. No. 7**

**Senators Tavares, Thomas**

**Cosponsors: Senators Brown, Skindell, Yuko**

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**A C O N C U R R E N T   R E S O L U T I O N**

To urge the powers of the governments that continue 1  
to make issuances containing the rebel flag to 2  
discontinue this practice, to urge the powers of 3  
the governments that fly the rebel flag or any 4  
flag containing imagery of the rebel flag on 5  
public property to remove those flags in question, 6  
to urge the powers of governments that have 7  
official state flags that contain imagery derived 8  
from the rebel flag to commence in the process of 9  
redesigning the official state flag immediately, 10  
to urge South Carolina's General Assembly to 11  
direct removal of the rebel flag from state 12  
property, and to urge Ohio retailers to remove 13  
from inventory any rebel flag merchandise. 14

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

WHEREAS, The members of the 131st General Assembly of 15  
the State of Ohio have learned, with deep sadness, of the 16  
deaths, on June 17, 2015, of Clementa C. Pinckney, Cynthia 17  
Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lance, DePayne Middleton-Doctor, 18  
Tywanza Sanders, Daniel L. Simmons, Sr., Sharonda Singleton, 19  
and Myra Thompson, the nine individuals who were murdered 20

while engaged in a session of Christian Bible study at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Events connected with this tragedy have raised questions about the rebel flag as a suitable element in public displays of honor; and

WHEREAS, The rebel flag is a symbol of the treasonous rebellion against the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, The rebellion memorialized by the rebel flag was for the expressed purpose of preserving a system of enslavement that is unconstitutional and was a violation of the inalienable rights endowed upon all people by the Creator; and

WHEREAS, The rebel flag is a symbol of oppression and racial hatred rooted in the legacy of African American enslavement; and

WHEREAS, The rebel flag remains a symbol of racial oppression and violence, even after the emancipation of slaves, Reconstruction, and the Civil Rights Movement; and

WHEREAS, The rebel flag has been used as a symbol of oppression and as a catalyst of violence against other minority groups; and

WHEREAS, Citizens of Ohio were major contributors to the Underground Railroad; and

WHEREAS, The State of Ohio was a major contributor to the Union victory in the American Civil War; and

WHEREAS, Citizens of Ohio have made major contributions to the assurance of civil rights to all citizens of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Five states still fly flags containing imagery

from the rebel flag; and 51

WHEREAS, Nine states still issue license plates 52  
containing imagery from the rebel flag; and 53

WHEREAS, The rebel flag can still be seen on government 54  
property in at least nine states; now therefore be it 55

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 131st General 56  
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the powers of the 57  
governments that continue to make issuances containing the 58  
rebel flag to discontinue this practice; and be it further 59

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 131st General 60  
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the powers of the 61  
governments that fly the rebel flag or any flag containing 62  
imagery of the rebel flag on public property to remove those 63  
flags in question; and be it further 64

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 131st General 65  
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the powers of governments 66  
that have official state flags that contain imagery derived 67  
from the rebel flag to commence the process of redesigning 68  
the official state flag immediately; and be it further 69

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 131st General 70  
Assembly of the State of Ohio, call upon the South Carolina 71  
General Assembly to take legislative action directing removal 72  
of any instances or representations of the rebel flag from 73  
the South Carolina State House and appurtenant grounds and 74  
from South Carolina state property; and be it further 75

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 131st General 76  
Assembly of the State of Ohio, call upon retailers throughout 77  
Ohio to remove rebel flag merchandise from their inventories; 78  
and be it further 79

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 80  
authenticated copies of this resolution to Nikki Haley, 81

Governor of South Carolina, Henry McMaster, President of the	82
South Carolina Senate, Jay Lucas, Speaker of the South	83
Carolina House of Representatives, and to the news media of	84
Ohio.	85