



NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S®

When your child needs a hospital, everything matters.

Timothy C. Robinson, Chief Executive Officer

June 9, 2020

Chairman Dave Burke
Senate Health, Human Services, and Medicaid Committee
Ohio Senate

Re: Statement of Support for SCR 14

Chairman Burke, Vice Chair Huffman, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the committee:

Thank you for allowing me to write in support SCR 14, which would declare racism a public health crisis and promote policies aimed at creating racial equity in Ohio. The resolution rightly recognizes that racism, as a social and legal construct, greatly impacts the health of children prior to birth and into adulthood. Children of color deserve a community, state and country free of systemic racism and the resolution highlights this very vision.

At Nationwide Children's Hospital, we have seen in our research and our work throughout the community that racism and racial disparities *are* a public health crisis. It is the mission of Nationwide Children's Hospital to care for *all* children, and we will stand as strong advocates for our patients, families, and our staff members to address the inequities and disparities that are creating this crisis. In our community, we are working to provide high-quality housing, job opportunities, school-based health clinics, and research to make sure each child lives to their fullest potential.

It has never been more important to re-emphasize that diversity and inclusiveness are the fabric of Nationwide Children's, and they unite us strongly together and to this community. A cornerstone of our strategic plan is fighting the inequities that plague our community. Our work is ongoing, but we will continue to combat racism and help those in our community who are harmed by it.

We applaud the Senate for its leadership in taking action on this crisis and urge the passage of SCR 14.

Sincerely,

Tim Robinson
CEO, Nationwide Children's Hospital