

133rd General Assembly
Regular Session
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Sub. H. R. No. 180

A R E S O L U T I O N

To declare that pornography is a public health 1
crisis with statewide and national public health 2
impacts leading to a broad spectrum of individual 3
and societal harms. 4

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

WHEREAS, Pornography is creating a public health crisis 5
that preserves human trafficking and a sexually toxic 6
environment; and 7

WHEREAS, According to statistics compiled by the National 8
Human Trafficking Hotline, Ohio ranks as the fourth worst state 9
in the nation for human sex trafficking; and 10

WHEREAS, Sex trafficking, prostitution, and pornography are 11
all interrelated, in that over half of the victims of sex 12
trafficking report having been required to learn and perform 13
sexual acts according to depictions in pornography; and 14

WHEREAS, The factors that compel men and women to enter 15
into the pornography industry include poverty, homelessness, a 16
history of childhood sexual or physical abuse, which are similar 17
to the factors that make women, girls, and boys vulnerable to 18
being trafficked for sex; and 19

WHEREAS, The pornography industry is mostly dominated by 20
producers and directors who recruit and capitalize off of 21
filming the exploitation and sexualization of women; and 22

WHEREAS, Studies have shown that there is a correlation 23
between men viewing pornography and an increased rate of 24
interest in rape; and 25

WHEREAS, Pornography provides sexualized depictions of 26
violence toward women and child pornography provides sexualized 27
depictions of violence toward children, both of which correlate 28
with an increased demand for sex trafficking, prostitution, 29
child sexual abuse images, and child pornography; and 30

WHEREAS, Due to advances in technology and the universal 31
availability of the Internet, the average child is first being 32
exposed to pornography between eleven and twelve years of age; 33
and 34

WHEREAS, Potential detrimental effects of pornography on 35
the user are that it can negatively impact the ability for 36
healthy brain development and function, which can contribute to 37
emotional and physical illnesses, shape sexual desires and 38
arousal, and promote problematic or harmful sexual behaviors and 39
addiction; and 40

WHEREAS, Recent neurological research indicates that 41
pornography is potentially biologically addictive; and 42

WHEREAS, This biological addiction leads to increasing 43
themes of risky sexual behaviors, degradation, violence, child 44
sexual abuse images, and child pornography; and 45

WHEREAS, It is important to recognize the harm on society 46
that pornography poses, due to the instant access that men, 47
women, and children have to it on the Internet; now therefore be 48
it 49

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Ohio House of 50

Representatives of the 133rd General Assembly of the State of 51
Ohio, recognize and acknowledge that pornography is a public 52
health crisis that leads to a broad spectrum of individual and 53
societal harms; and be it further 54

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Ohio House of 55
Representatives of the 133rd General Assembly of the State of 56
Ohio, declare that the pornography crisis must be addressed by 57
encouraging education, prevention, research, and policy changes 58
at the community and societal level to confront the public 59
health crisis that pornography has created in relation to human 60
trafficking and the abuse of women and children; and be it 61
further 62

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Ohio House of 63
Representatives of the 133rd General Assembly of the State of 64
Ohio, urge enforcement of obscenity laws and increased 65
regulation of pornography on the Internet at the state and 66
federal level in order to protect the state's citizens, minors 67
in particular, from such exposure. 68