

As Introduced

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

H. R. No. 206

Representatives Sykes, Reece

A 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 confederate flag 2
to discontinue this practice, to urge the powers 3
of the governments that fly the confederate flag 4
or any flag containing imagery of the confederate 5
flag on public property to remove those flags in 6
question, to urge the powers of governments that 7
have official state flags that contain imagery 8
derived from the confederate flag to commence in 9
the process of redesigning the official state 10
flag immediately, to urge South Carolina's 11
General Assembly to direct removal of the 12
confederate flag from state property, and to urge 13
Ohio retailers to remove from inventory any 14
confederate flag merchandise. 15

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

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 16
131st General Assembly of the State of Ohio have learned, with 17
deep sadness, of the deaths, on June 17, 2015, of Clementa C. 18
Pinckney, Cynthia Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lance, DePayne 19
Middleton-Doctor, Tywanza Sanders, Daniel L. Simmons, Sr., 20
Sharonda Singleton, and Myra Thompson, the nine individuals who 21
were murdered while engaged in a session of Christian Bible 22

study at the Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in 23
Charleston, South Carolina; and 24

WHEREAS, Events connected with this tragedy have raised 25
questions about the confederate flag as a suitable element in 26
public displays of honor; and 27

WHEREAS, The Ohio House of Representatives recognizes 28
display of the confederate flag is supported by those who view 29
it as an historical emblem from the Civil War, and affirms the 30
right and duty of the people of South Carolina to pay tribute to 31
the history and heritage of their state; and 32

WHEREAS, The Ohio House of Representatives also recognizes 33
the confederate flag has become to many an offensive symbol of 34
slavery and racism that should no longer be displayed; and 35

WHEREAS, The confederate flag is a symbol of the treasonous 36
rebellion against the United States of America; and 37

WHEREAS, The rebellion memorialized by the confederate flag 38
was for the expressed purpose of preserving a system of 39
enslavement that is unconstitutional and was a violation of the 40
inalienable rights endowed upon all people by the Creator; and 41

WHEREAS, The confederate flag is a symbol of oppression and 42
racial hatred rooted in the legacy of African American 43
enslavement; and 44

WHEREAS, The confederate flag remains a symbol of racial 45
oppression and violence, even after the emancipation of slaves, 46
Reconstruction, and the Civil Rights Movement; and 47

WHEREAS, The confederate flag has been used as a symbol of 48
oppression and as a catalyst of violence against other minority 49
groups; and 50

WHEREAS, Citizens of Ohio were major contributors to the 51
Underground Railroad; and 52

WHEREAS, The State of Ohio was a major contributor to the 53
Union victory in the American Civil War; and 54

WHEREAS, Citizens of Ohio have made major contributions to 55
the assurance of civil rights to all citizens of the United 56
States of America; and 57

WHEREAS, Five states still fly flags containing imagery 58
from the confederate flag; and 59

WHEREAS, Nine states still issue license plates containing 60
imagery from the confederate flag; and 61

WHEREAS, The confederate flag can still be seen on 62
government property in at least nine states; now therefore be it 63

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of 64
Representatives of the 131st General Assembly of the State of 65
Ohio, urge the powers of the governments that continue to make 66
issuances containing the confederate flag to discontinue this 67
practice; and be it further 68

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of 69
Representatives of the 131st General Assembly of the State of 70
Ohio, urge the powers of the governments that fly the 71
confederate flag or any flag containing imagery of the 72
confederate flag on public property to remove those flags in 73
question; and be it further 74

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of 75
Representatives of the 131st General Assembly of the State of 76
Ohio, urge the powers of governments that have official state 77
flags that contain imagery derived from the confederate flag to 78
commence in the process of redesigning the official state flag 79
immediately; and be it further 80

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of 81
Representatives of the 131st General Assembly of the State of 82
Ohio, call upon the South Carolina General Assembly to take 83

legislative action directing removal of any instances or 84
representations of the confederate flag from the South Carolina 85
State House and appurtenant grounds and from South Carolina 86
state property; and be it further 87

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of 88
Representatives of the 131st General Assembly of the State of 89
Ohio, call upon retailers throughout Ohio to remove confederate 90
flag merchandise from their inventories; and be it further 91

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 92
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to Nikki 93
Haley, Governor of South Carolina, Henry McMaster, President of 94
the South Carolina Senate, Jay Lucas, Speaker of the South 95
Carolina House of Representatives, and to the news media of 96
Ohio. 97