

As Introduced

**132nd General Assembly
Regular Session
2017-2018**

S. C. R. No. 27

Senators Yuko, Brown

**Cosponsors: Senators Schiavoni, Skindell, Sykes, Thomas, Tavares, O'Brien,
Williams**

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

To urge the Congress of the United States to enact the 1
Butch Lewis Act of 2017. 2

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

WHEREAS, Multiemployer pension plans are governed by 3
collective bargaining agreements negotiated by employers and 4
workers who choose to sacrifice higher wages and other benefits 5
in exchange for secure pension benefits; and 6

WHEREAS, The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation 7
Multiemployer Insurance Program insures multiemployer pension 8
plans and provides financial assistance to a plan only after the 9
plan is insolvent; the pension benefits paid out are guaranteed 10
benefits but only up to a certain legally limited amount; and 11

WHEREAS, About 130 multiemployer plans are at risk of 12
insolvency during the next 20 years, jeopardizing the pension 13
benefits of over 1 million workers, retirees, and survivors; and 14

WHEREAS, The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation 15
Multiemployer Insurance Program is at risk of becoming insolvent 16
by 2025 due to the increased volume and size of claims, leading 17
to a decrease in the amount of guaranteed benefits that may be 18

paid to retirees; and 19

WHEREAS, In 2014, Congress enacted the Multiemployer 20
Pension Reform Act to allow insufficiently funded multiemployer 21
pension plans to reduce the pension benefits promised to 22
workers, retirees, and survivors to try to keep the plan 23
solvent; and 24

WHEREAS, The Butch Lewis Act of 2017 (S. 2147) creates the 25
Pension Rehabilitation Administration to provide loans to 26
qualified insolvent or underfunded multiemployer plans to be 27
used to pay pension benefits and invest to improve the plan's 28
financial position; now therefore be it 29

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 132nd General 30
Assembly of the State of Ohio, in adopting this resolution, urge 31
the Congress of the United States to enact the Butch Lewis Act 32
of 2017; and be it further 33

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 34
authenticated copies of this resolution to the President Pro 35
Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker 36
and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, each 37
member of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and the news media 38
of Ohio. 39