

**As Reported by the House Criminal Justice Committee**

**133rd General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2019-2020**

**H. C. R. No. 10**

**Representatives Wiggam, Plummer**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Lang, Riedel, Antani, Becker, Vitale, Cross,  
Carruthers, Roemer, Manning, D., Smith, T., Butler, Grendell, Rogers**

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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 federal government to designate certain drug 1  
cartels operating from Mexico as foreign terrorist 2  
organizations. 3

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

WHEREAS, The southern border of the United States presents 4  
unique challenges and threats to the national security of the 5  
country; and 6

WHEREAS, Transnational criminal organizations based in 7  
Mexico, commonly known as drug cartels, control the majority of 8  
the flow of opioids, heroin, methamphetamine, and cocaine into 9  
the nation and these groups maintain territorial influence over 10  
large regions in Mexico used for the cultivation, production, 11  
importation, and transportation of these illicit drugs into the 12  
United States and Ohio; and 13

WHEREAS, The drug cartels are also responsible for the 14  
proliferation of human trafficking in the United States, 15  
particularly in Ohio, as part and parcel of their drug 16  
trafficking operations; and 17

WHEREAS, The drug cartels currently conduct operations on 18

United States soil in furtherance of drug trafficking and human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, Abuse of opioids, including fentanyl, and human trafficking are identified as direct threats to the economy, well-being, and overall vitality of the state of Ohio, its citizens, and future generations; and

WHEREAS, The acting administrator of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, Uttam Dhillon, recently declared, "Mexican drug trafficking organizations are the biggest criminal threat the United States faces today"; and

WHEREAS, Section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189) authorizes the United States Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Attorney General, to designate an organization as a foreign terrorist organization when certain criteria are met; and

WHEREAS, The drug cartels meet the criteria to be designated foreign terrorist organizations under Section 219, given that they are foreign in nature, they engage in or retain the capability and intent to engage in terrorism, and they threaten the security of United States nationals and the national defense, foreign relations, and economic interests of the United States; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 133rd General Assembly of the State of Ohio, respectfully urge the federal government to designate the drug cartels operating from Mexico as foreign terrorist organizations, so that the government may use appropriate means to mitigate and eventually eliminate the operations of the cartels; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the Speaker and Minority Leader of the United States House of

Representatives, to the President Pro Tempore and Minority	50
Leader of the United States Senate, to Ohio's congressional	51
delegation, and to the news media of Ohio.	52