

As Introduced

**134th General Assembly
Regular Session
2021-2022**

S. C. R. No. 14

**Senator Schaffer
Cosponsors: Senators Lang, Cirino**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge Congress to make changes to the Fair Labor Standards 1
Act to allow a person under 16 years of age to be employed 2
between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. during the school year. 3

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

WHEREAS, The United States lost over 22 million jobs and 4
had an unemployment rate of 14.8% in April 2020, as a result of 5
the COVID-19 pandemic, the highest observed unemployment rate 6
since data collection began in 1948; and 7

WHEREAS, Employers are still experiencing a shortage of 8
workers to fill the almost 11 million currently available 9
positions, despite the economy recovering 14.5 million of the 10
jobs that were lost because of the COVID-19 pandemic; and 11

WHEREAS, Ohio had lost nearly 900,000 jobs and recorded a 12
16.4% unemployment rate in April 2020, due to the COVID-19 13
pandemic, and still has not recovered nearly 250,000 of those 14
jobs that had been lost; and 15

WHEREAS, Teenage workers are becoming a larger portion of 16
the United States workforce, with an unemployment rate of 9.6% 17
in May 2021, which is the lowest unemployment rate for teenage 18
workers since November 1953; and 19

WHEREAS, Business owners have had to adjust their 20
operations in response to the ongoing labor shortage, including 21
decreasing their open hours; and 22

WHEREAS, Business owners could more quickly return to 23
regular operations, including resuming their usual open hours, 24
by being able to hire the necessary staff to meet their 25
operating needs; and 26

WHEREAS, The Fair Labor Standards Act and Ohio law permits 27
a person under 16 years of age to work until 9 p.m. during 28
summer months or other school holidays; and 29

WHEREAS, Extending the hours which a person under 16 years 30
of age may work during the school year allows business owners to 31
hire the staff required for the business to resume operating 32
during its usual hours of operation; and 33

WHEREAS, Local economic growth results when more people are 34
employed and earn wages to spend on goods and services produced 35
by businesses within the local area, which in turn requires 36
businesses to hire more workers to meet the increased demand; 37
now therefore be it 38

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 134th General 39
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the Congress of the United 40
States to make changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act to allow 41
a person under 16 years of age to be employed between 7 p.m. and 42
9 p.m. during the school year if the person has approval to do 43
so from the person's parent or legal guardian; and be it further 44

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 45
authenticated copies of this resolution to the President Pro 46
Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker 47
and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the 48
members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and the news media 49
of Ohio. 50