

**As Introduced**

**135th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2023-2024**

**H. C. R. No. 14**

**Representatives Patton, Skindell**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Click, Williams, Troy, Carruthers, Brennan, Russo,  
Brent, Isaacsohn, Miller, A., Grim, Jarrells, Weinstein, Miranda, Somani,  
Piccolantonio, Upchurch, Dell'Aquila, Abdullahi, Sweeney, Miller, J., Brewer, Hoops,  
Brown**

---

**A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

To urge the United States Congress to enact the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2024. 1  
2

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

WHEREAS, On February 6, 2024, a group of bipartisan U.S. Senators introduced the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act of 2024, which reauthorizes the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) for five years, from 2027 to 2031, and provides funding in the amount of \$500 million per year; and

WHEREAS, The Great Lakes are a critical resource for our nation, supporting the economy and a way of life in Ohio and the other seven states within the Great Lakes region. The Great Lakes hold 21 percent of the world's surface freshwater and 84 percent of the United States' surface freshwater. This globally significant freshwater resource provides drinking water for more than 30 million people and directly supports 1.3 million jobs, generating \$82 billion in wages; and

WHEREAS, The GLRI has provided crucial funding to support

long overdue work to protect and restore the Great Lakes. In 17  
partnership with the states, local governments, and other 18  
organizations, the federal government has invested more than \$3 19  
billion and supported over 7,000 projects since 2010. These 20  
projects have cleaned up toxic pollution, reduced runoff from 21  
cities and farms, combatted invasive species, and restored fish 22  
and wildlife habitats; and 23

WHEREAS, The GLRI has made a significant difference and 24  
represents a sound investment in both the environment and the 25  
economies of the Great Lakes region. A 2018 study calculated 26  
that for every federal dollar invested in Great Lakes 27  
restoration there is an additional \$3.35 created in economic 28  
activity; and 29

WHEREAS, Far more work needs to be done. Toxic algal blooms 30  
and hotspots contaminating water supplies along Lake Erie, 31  
invasive species threatening native species and Ohio industries, 32  
and contaminated sediments restricting recreational 33  
opportunities pose substantial limitations and threats to 34  
habitats for fish and wildlife and the use of the Great Lakes. 35  
These problems require a collaborative effort; now therefore be 36  
it 37

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 135th General 38  
Assembly of the State of Ohio, in adopting this resolution, urge 39  
the United States Congress to enact the Great Lakes Restoration 40  
Initiative Act of 2024, which reauthorizes the Great Lakes 41  
Restoration Initiative for five years, from 2027 to 2031; and be 42  
it further 43

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 44  
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 45  
President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, 46  
the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of 47  
Representatives, each member of the Ohio Congressional 48

delegation, and the news media of Ohio.