

As Introduced

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

S. R. No. 209

Senators Cirino, Dolan



A RESOLUTION

Recognizing the late President James A. Garfield for his
legacy of public service.

WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the 135th General Assembly
of Ohio extend posthumous recognition to President James A. Garfield
as we recognize his legacy of public service; and

WHEREAS, The twentieth president of the United States of America
and the last one to be born in a log cabin, James Garfield was raised
in what is now Moreland Hills, and he served as a classics professor
and the president of Hiram College before being elected to the Ohio
Senate in 1859 as a Republican, advocating for coercing seceding
states back into the Union. He would go on to join the U.S. House of
Representatives but not before proudly serving as a brigadier general
in the Union Army during the Civil War, and he was later chosen for a
seat in the U.S. Senate before being elected president. Indeed, his
legacy of good works for his state and nation endure to this day; and

WHEREAS, There is no finer honor that can be bestowed on an
American individual by our nation's people than election to president.
Originally attending the 1880 Republican Convention to help win the
nomination for his friend, John Sherman, he became the dark horse
candidate on the thirty-sixth ballot and won the presidency by only
10,000 popular votes. He would go on to reaffirm the power and
independence of the executive office by tackling the patronage system
of Senator Roscoe Conkling of New York, setting precedents that stand
to this day. His victory was eclipsed on July 2, 1881, when a mentally
unstable office seeker shot President Garfield, and he died seventy-
nine days later. Though his tenure was brief and we will never know
the full potential and impact James Garfield could have had through
the office, his commitment to his country is readily reflected in his

efforts to combat political corruption, strengthen federal authority, 27
and repair some of the damage that had been done to the presidency 28
during the Reconstruction period; and 29

WHEREAS, A self-made man, a champion of important causes, and a 30
skilled orator, James Garfield is one of the finest sons our state has 31
ever produced. As we celebrate his legacy of public service to Ohio, 32
we pay tribute to the indisputable fact that he made his home a 33
greater place and, in doing so, enriched countless generations of 34
people; therefore be it 35

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 135th General 36
Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, applaud the eternal 37
legacy of President James A. Garfield and honor his example of public 38
service; and be it further 39

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated 40
copies of this Resolution to the news media of the State of Ohio. 41