

As Introduced

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

S. R. No. 257

Senator Antonio

A RESOLUTION

To honor the Bulgarian-American heritage in the 1
State of Ohio. 2

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

WHEREAS, Bulgaria and the United States are strategic 3
partners and allies, sharing ties of culture, tradition, and 4
common interest; and 5

WHEREAS, The State of Ohio is proud to be called home by a 6
large number of Bulgarian-Americans and their descendants who 7
have contributed significantly to the economic development, 8
multicultural diversity, and enrichment of all aspects of life 9
in the State of Ohio; and 10

WHEREAS, 2023 marks the 20th anniversary of the United 11
States Senate's ratification of the Protocol for Accession of 12
Bulgaria into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO); the 13
80th anniversary of the rescue of the Bulgarian Jews by the 14
Bulgarian people; and the 120th anniversary of the establishment 15
of diplomatic relations between the United States and Bulgaria; 16
and 17

WHEREAS, March 3, 2023, marks the 145th anniversary of the 18
reestablishment of a free Bulgaria; and 19

WHEREAS, The saving of Bulgarian Jews during World War II 20
is a valuable lesson about the essential role of civic 21

mobilization in support of freedom, democracy, the rule of law, 22
and human rights. It is a powerful, positive example that 23
inspires today's efforts of the civilized world to fight the 24
modern manifestations of antisemitism; and 25

WHEREAS, Bulgaria, as a member of NATO and an integral part 26
of the European Union, is a strategic partner to the United 27
States and a key ally in Eastern Europe, contributing to the 28
stability of the Balkan Peninsula and Black Sea Region; and 29

WHEREAS, Bulgaria and the United States entered into the 30
U.S.-Bulgarian Defense Cooperation Agreement in 2006, providing 31
the U.S. military access to specified Bulgarian military 32
facilities; and 33

WHEREAS, In 2020, the United States and Bulgaria signed a 34
10-year Roadmap for Defense Cooperation to foster increased 35
military cooperation and preparation; now therefore be it 36

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 135th 37
General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, honor the 38
Bulgarian-American heritage in the state of Ohio and recognize 39
and applaud the historic significance of the 145th anniversary 40
of the re-establishment of the sovereign and independent 41
Republic of Bulgaria; and be it further 42

RESOLVED, That we reaffirm the bonds of friendship and 43
cooperation that have existed between the United States, the 44
State of Ohio, and the Republic of Bulgaria for the past 120 45
years and commit to strengthening these bonds; and be it further 46

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 47
authenticated copies of this resolution to the Consul General of 48
the Republic of Bulgaria in Chicago. 49