

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2025-2026**

**H. C. R. No. 17**

**Representatives McNally, Rogers**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Piccolantonio, Troy, White, E., Williams, Thomas, D.,  
Brennan, Sims, Jarrells, Russo**

---

**A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

To recognize the impact of the lifeguard shortage in Ohio 1  
and encourage individuals to consider a career as a 2  
lifeguard. 3

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

WHEREAS, Lifeguards working at beaches, swimming pools, and 4  
water parks are responsible for preventing and responding to 5  
emergencies and protecting countless individuals from death or 6  
serious injury; and 7

WHEREAS, To become a lifeguard, an individual must undergo 8  
training on water and land rescue techniques in a variety of 9  
environments and how to deliver first aid and critical care to 10  
injured individuals; and 11

WHEREAS, Closures of beaches, pools, and water parks and 12  
work restrictions put in place in response to the COVID-19 13  
pandemic prevented individuals from receiving the necessary 14  
training to become a lifeguard, resulting in a shortage of 15  
available lifeguards across the United States; and 16

WHEREAS, One-third of the 309,000 public pools in the 17  
United States are being forced to close or reduce their hours of 18

operations due to a lack of available lifeguards to staff the 19  
pools; and 20

WHEREAS, The shortage of lifeguards at public pools has 21  
resulted in reduced class offerings and safety training courses, 22  
including community swimming lessons and water safety and 23  
lifeguard recertification; and 24

WHEREAS, Many cities are unable to hire enough staff to 25  
provide lifeguards for municipal beaches, leaving swimmers and 26  
other beach-goers without access to trained staff in the event 27  
of an emergency; and 28

WHEREAS, Cities in Ohio have been increasing the wages paid 29  
to attract individuals to fill open lifeguard positions, 30  
allowing a lifeguard in Ohio to earn an average wage of \$18 per 31  
hour, which is projected to increase 12% over the next five 32  
years; and 33

WHEREAS, Numerous other benefits are available to 34  
individuals who choose to seek a career as a lifeguard, 35  
including paid training, retention bonuses, and flexible 36  
scheduling; now therefore be it 37

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 136th General 38  
Assembly of the State of Ohio, in adopting this resolution, 39  
recognize the impact of the lifeguard shortage in Ohio and 40  
encourage individuals to consider a career as a lifeguard; and 41  
be it further 42

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 43  
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 44  
Governor of Ohio and the news media of Ohio. 45