As Adopted by the House

136th General Assembly
Regular Session **H. R. No. 369**
2025-2026

Speaker Huffman, Representatives Isaacsohn, Bryant Bailey, Abdullahi, Abrams, Baker, Barhorst, Bird, Brennan, Brent, Brewer, Brownlee, Callender, Claggett, Click, Cockley, Craig, Creech, Daniels, Dean, Deeter, Demetriou, Dovilla, Ferguson, Fischer, Fowler Arthur, Ghanbari, Glassburn, Grim, Gross, Hall, D., Hall, T., Hiner, Holmes, Hoops, Humphrey, Jarrells, John, Johnson, King, Kishman, Klopfenstein, Lampton, LaRe, Lawson-Rowe, Lear, Lett, Lorenz, Manning, Mathews, A., Mathews, T., McClain, McNally, Miller, J., Miller, K., Miller, M., Mohamed, Moore, Mullins, Newman, Odioso, Oelslager, Peterson, Piccolantonio, Pizzulli, Plummer, Rader, Ray, Richardson, Ritter, Robb Blasdel, Robinson, Roemer, Rogers, Russo, Salvo, Santucci, Schmidt, Sigrist, Sims, Somani, Stephens, Stewart, Swearingen, Sweeney, Synenberg, Teska, Thomas, C., Thomas, D., Thomas, J., Tims, Troy, Upchurch, White, A., White, E., Williams, Willis, Workman, Young

A R E S O L U T I O N

In memory of L. Helen Rankin.

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 136th General Assembly of Ohio extend our heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of L. Helen Rankin in their bereavement; and

WHEREAS, Helen Rankin left an indelible impression in all of her endeavors, and the State of Ohio benefited exponentially during her service as an Ohio legislator, a career which spanned one appointment and seven re-elected terms in office, for a total of sixteen years. Appointed to the 112th General Assembly as the member for the Ohio House of Representatives 25th District, which was subsequently redistricted to the 30th District, Helen Rankin was the first African American woman to serve in the state legislature, and she was a

dependable and esteemed advocate for women's health, children, and the underprivileged. She proved to be a champion for greater access to insurance coverage, Medicaid reimbursement, special services for impaired Ohioans, and Title XX Comprehensive Social Services initiatives, and during her more than fifteen-year tenure, she was a member of the Finance and Appropriations and Human Resources committees. The wealth of experience she brought to her posts will be remembered as a storied history of public service; and

WHEREAS, Helen Rankin's regard for improving the quality of life in our society was reflected in her continued leadership in her community, and she was esteemed for her character and strong values. She was a longtime supporter of such entities as the Shalom Habitat for Humanity Project, the Emanuel Community Center, and New Vision United Methodist Church, and her meaningful efforts earned her the respect of many. Her absence will, indeed, be keenly felt in countless realms; and

WHEREAS, Helen Rankin always used her talents to the benefit of others, and the laurels of her life stand as a tribute not only to her but also to the people who shaped her life, including her husband, the late James, her children, James, Sharron, and Connie, and her seven grandchildren. Although the void her death has created can never be filled, the legacy of care and commitment she established will surely live on. The world is a richer place for her having been in it, and the impact she made during her lifetime will be her eternal legacy; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 136th General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, express a profound sense of loss and sincere regret at the passing of L. Helen Rankin and, in so doing, salute the memory of an honorable woman; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit a duly authenticated copy of this Resolution to the family of L. Helen Rankin.