

As Introduced

**131st General Assembly
Regular Session
2015-2016**

S. C. R. No. 7

Senators Tavares, Thomas

Cosponsors: Senators Brown, Skindell, Yuko

A C O N C U R R E N T R E S O L U T I O N

To urge the powers of the governments that continue	1
to make issuances containing the rebel flag to	2
discontinue this practice, to urge the powers of	3
the governments that fly the rebel flag or any	4
flag containing imagery of the rebel flag on	5
public property to remove those flags in question,	6
to urge the powers of governments that have	7
official state flags that contain imagery derived	8
from the rebel flag to commence in the process of	9
redesigning the official state flag immediately,	10
to urge South Carolina's General Assembly to	11
direct removal of the rebel flag from state	12
property, and to urge Ohio retailers to remove	13
from inventory any rebel flag merchandise.	14

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

WHEREAS, The members of the 131st General Assembly of	15
the State of Ohio have learned, with deep sadness, of the	16
deaths, on June 17, 2015, of Clementa C. Pinckney, Cynthia	17
Hurd, Susie Jackson, Ethel Lance, DePayne Middleton-Doctor,	18
Tywanza Sanders, Daniel L. Simmons, Sr., Sharonda Singleton,	19
and Myra Thompson, the nine individuals who were murdered	20

while engaged in a session of Christian Bible study at the 21
Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, 22
South Carolina; and 23

WHEREAS, Events connected with this tragedy have raised 24
questions about the rebel flag as a suitable element in 25
public displays of honor; and 26

WHEREAS, The rebel flag is a symbol of the treasonous 27
rebellion against the United States of America; and 28

WHEREAS, The rebellion memorialized by the rebel flag 29
was for the expressed purpose of preserving a system of 30
enslavement that is unconstitutional and was a violation of 31
the inalienable rights endowed upon all people by the 32
Creator; and 33

WHEREAS, The rebel flag is a symbol of oppression and 34
racial hatred rooted in the legacy of African American 35
enslavement; and 36

WHEREAS, The rebel flag remains a symbol of racial 37
oppression and violence, even after the emancipation of 38
slaves, Reconstruction, and the Civil Rights Movement; and 39

WHEREAS, The rebel flag has been used as a symbol of 40
oppression and as a catalyst of violence against other 41
minority groups; and 42

WHEREAS, Citizens of Ohio were major contributors to the 43
Underground Railroad; and 44

WHEREAS, The State of Ohio was a major contributor to 45
the Union victory in the American Civil War; and 46

WHEREAS, Citizens of Ohio have made major contributions 47
to the assurance of civil rights to all citizens of the 48
United States of America; and 49

WHEREAS, Five states still fly flags containing imagery 50

from the rebel flag; and 51

WHEREAS, Nine states still issue license plates 52
containing imagery from the rebel flag; and 53

WHEREAS, The rebel flag can still be seen on government 54
property in at least nine states; now therefore be it 55

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 131st General 56
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the powers of the 57
governments that continue to make issuances containing the 58
rebel flag to discontinue this practice; and be it further 59

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 131st General 60
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the powers of the 61
governments that fly the rebel flag or any flag containing 62
imagery of the rebel flag on public property to remove those 63
flags in question; and be it further 64

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 131st General 65
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the powers of governments 66
that have official state flags that contain imagery derived 67
from the rebel flag to commence the process of redesigning 68
the official state flag immediately; and be it further 69

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 131st General 70
Assembly of the State of Ohio, call upon the South Carolina 71
General Assembly to take legislative action directing removal 72
of any instances or representations of the rebel flag from 73
the South Carolina State House and appurtenant grounds and 74
from South Carolina state property; and be it further 75

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 131st General 76
Assembly of the State of Ohio, call upon retailers throughout 77
Ohio to remove rebel flag merchandise from their inventories; 78
and be it further 79

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 80
authenticated copies of this resolution to Nikki Haley, 81

Governor of South Carolina, Henry McMaster, President of the	82
South Carolina Senate, Jay Lucas, Speaker of the South	83
Carolina House of Representatives, and to the news media of	84
Ohio.	85