

As Introduced

**132nd General Assembly
Regular Session
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H. C. R. No. 27

Representatives Smith, K., Rogers

**Cosponsors: Representatives Patterson, Ramos, Riedel, Sheehy, Thompson,
Seitz, Lepore-Hagan, Strahorn, West, Fedor, Antonio, Celebrezze, Howse**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express support for the United States Army Corps of 1
Engineers in its efforts to stop the Asian carp from 2
invading the Great Lakes and to support federal 3
funding of those efforts. 4

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

WHEREAS, The Chicago Area Waterway System serves as a 5
pathway for aquatic invasive species to move between the Great 6
Lakes and Mississippi River Basins. Zebra mussels spread from 7
the Great Lakes to the Mississippi River and its tributaries 8
through this man-made connection. Now, Asian carp, which is an 9
invasive species and which has been found in the Chicago Area 10
Waterway System, are on the brink of using this same route to 11
invade the Great Lakes from the Mississippi River Basin; and 12

WHEREAS, Asian carp pose a significant threat to the Great 13
Lakes because they are very large, extremely prolific, and 14
consume vast amounts of food. Because of those characteristics, 15
many native species would be threatened if Asian carp entered 16
the Great Lakes ecosystem; and 17

WHEREAS, The impacts of Asian carp to the ecosystems and 18

economies of the Great Lakes states and local communities would 19
be catastrophic. Invasive species established in the Great Lakes 20
already cost the region more than \$100 million per year. Asian 21
carp could add dramatically to this cost by threatening the 22
region's annual \$7 billion sport and commercial fishing industry 23
and \$16 billion recreational boating industry; and 24

WHEREAS, The United States Army Corps of Engineers has 25
erected an electric barrier in the Chicago Ship and Sanitary 26
Canal to prevent Asian carp from reaching the Great Lakes. 27
However, multiple studies have shown that the electric barrier 28
is not completely effective at stopping all fish; and 29

WHEREAS, The Army Corps, under its existing Great Lakes and 30
Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS) authorization, is 31
investigating additional structural control technologies, 32
including an Aquatic Invasive Species Treatment Lock, to prevent 33
long-term movement of aquatic invasive species into and out of 34
the Great Lakes; and 35

WHEREAS, As part of GLMRIS, the Army Corps is in the 36
process of completing the Brandon Road Study. The draft study 37
tentatively recommends a plan to implement structural control 38
technologies at the Brandon Road Lock and Dam in Joliet, 39
Illinois; now therefore be it 40

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 132nd General 41
Assembly of the State of Ohio, support all of the following: 42

--The United States Army Corps of Engineers' timely 43
completion of the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin 44
Study (GLMRIS) - Brandon Road Study, culminating in a report not 45
later than January, 2019; 46

--The Army Corps, under its existing GLMRIS authorization, 47
in its investigation into additional structural control 48
technologies, including an Aquatic Invasive Species Treatment 49

Lock, to prevent long-term movement of aquatic invasive species 50
into and out of the Great Lakes; 51

--Congressional authorization of full federal funding for 52
the GLMRIS - Brandon Road tentative plan to implement structural 53
control technologies at the Brandon Road Lock and Dam in Joliet, 54
Illinois; and 55

--Federal funds to continue and expand monitoring and 56
harvesting efforts to diminish the Asian carp population below 57
Brandon Road Lock and Dam; and be it further 58

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 59
send duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 60
President of the United States, the President Pro Tempore and 61
Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of 62
the United States House of Representatives, each member of the 63
Ohio congressional delegation, the Commanding General and Chief 64
of Engineers of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, and 65
the news media of Ohio. 66