

**As Offered**

**132nd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2017-2018**

**H. R. No. 491**

**Representatives Hughes, Boggs**

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**A RESOLUTION**

Honoring the Catholic Diocese of Columbus on its  
Sesquicentennial.

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 1  
132nd General Assembly of Ohio are pleased to congratulate the 2  
Catholic Diocese of Columbus on the auspicious occasion of its One 3  
Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary; and 4

WHEREAS, After the first Catholic Mass in Ohio was 5  
celebrated in Somerset in 1808 followed by the first Catholic 6  
church, Somerset St. Joseph Church, in 1818, the Vatican formed 7  
the Diocese of Cincinnati in 1821, and to meet our state's growing 8  
Catholic population, part of this territory was used to create the 9  
Diocese of Cleveland in 1847 and the Diocese of Columbus on March 10  
3, 1868. Under the guidance of its bishops, the Columbus diocese 11  
prospered and established various parishes, schools, cemeteries, 12  
St. Joseph Cathedral, hospitals, orphanages, and a newspaper, and 13  
its current boundaries were set when the Diocese of Steubenville 14  
was carved from it in 1944. Today, with more than 278,000 15  
worshippers, the Diocese of Columbus encompasses 23 counties with 16  
105 parishes, 54 schools, three missions, and four cemeteries, and 17  
it also operates the Mount Carmel Health System, the Mount Carmel 18  
College of Nursing, the Pontifical College Josephinum, Ohio 19  
Dominican University, Catholic Social Services, St. Stephen's 20  
Community House, and other institutions; and 21

WHEREAS, Since its inception, the Catholic Diocese of 22  
Columbus has offered countless parishioners the pathway to a more 23  
meaningful life by illuminating and demonstrating the precepts on 24  
which the Catholic Church was founded. With a spirit of love and 25  
Christian fellowship, the diocese has provided a source of moral 26

guidance and spiritual motivation for the Catholic population, and 27  
it has enhanced the quality of life in our society. Indeed, it has 28  
earned the gratitude and respect of the many citizens it has so 29  
capably served; and 30

WHEREAS, An occasion such as this is an important milestone 31  
that represents dedication and commitment. For a century and a 32  
half, all those associated with the Catholic Diocese of Columbus 33  
have kept their faith alive in the communities it serves, and on 34  
this special anniversary, they have accepted the challenge of 35  
carrying their beliefs into the future; therefore be it 36

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of 37  
Representatives of the 132nd General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting 38  
this Resolution, commend the Catholic Diocese of Columbus on its 39  
One Hundred Fiftieth Anniversary and pay tribute to all those 40  
joining in the celebration of this joyous event; and be it further 41

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 42  
transmit a duly authenticated copy of this Resolution to the 43  
Catholic Diocese of Columbus. 44