

**As Introduced**

**133rd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2019-2020**

**S. R. No. 542**

**Senator Fedor**

**Cosponsors: Senators Yuko, Antonio, Maharath, Sykes, Thomas, Craig,  
Williams, O'Brien**

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

To urge the United States Secretary of Education to 1  
extend the school assessment and accountability 2  
waivers issued for the 2019-2020 school year 3  
through the 2020-2021 school year due to the 4  
ongoing COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic. 5

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

WHEREAS, The United States Secretary of Education, in 6  
response to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, granted states 7  
waivers for the 2019-2020 school year to bypass school 8  
assessment and accountability measures required by the 9  
Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by 10  
the Every Student Succeeds Act; and 11

WHEREAS, The burden of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic 12  
negatively impacted Ohio schools in the 2019-2020 school year; 13  
and 14

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic is ongoing and 15  
will negatively impact Ohio schools during the 2020-2021 school 16  
year; and 17

WHEREAS, The health and safety of Ohio's students, 18  
teachers, administrators, and parents should be the top 19

priority; and 20

WHEREAS, Decisions regarding the upcoming school year must 21  
be based on what is in the best interest of students; and 22

WHEREAS, Learning must continue for all students; and 23

WHEREAS, Services typically provided in person must occur 24  
differently during times of necessary social distancing; and 25

WHEREAS, The digital divide and information gap further 26  
disadvantage high-poverty students and their teachers and 27  
schools; and 28

WHEREAS, Mandated assessments divert valuable time and 29  
money from teaching and learning; now therefore be it 30

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 133rd 31  
General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this resolution, urge the 32  
United States Secretary of Education to extend the school 33  
assessment and accountability waivers granted for the 2019-2020 34  
school year through the 2020-2021 school year due to the 35  
necessary continuation of school closures in response to the 36  
ongoing COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic; and be it further 37

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 38  
authenticated copies of this resolution to the United States 39  
Secretary of Education, to Ohio's Congressional delegation, and 40  
to the news media of Ohio. 41