This being the day fixed by law for the meeting of the General Assembly in regular session, the Senators and Senators-elect of the One Hundred Thirty-Fourth General Assembly of the State of Ohio, met in the Senate Chamber and were called to order by Senator Larry Obhof, President of the One Hundred Thirty-Third General Assembly.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Dr. LaMont Monford, Sr., Philippian Baptist Church, Lima, Ohio.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews of the Senators and Senators-Elect.

The President directed the Clerk to call the Senatorial Districts in their numerical order when the following named persons presented their certificates of election as Senators from their respective districts to the One Hundred Thirty-Fourth General Assembly, and the following named persons who were previously elected in 2018:

First District - Composed of: Auglaize (part), Defiance, Fulton (part), Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Logan (part) Paulding, Putnam, Van Wert, Williams - Rob McColley.
Third District - Composed of: Franklin (part) - Tina Maharath.
Fourth District - Composed of: Butler (part) - George F. Lang.
Fifth District - Composed of: Darke (part), Miami, Montgomery (part), Preble - Stephen A. Huffman.
Sixth District - Composed of: Montgomery (part) - Niraj Antani.
Seventh District - Composed of: Butler (part), Hamilton (part), Warren - Steve Wilson.
Eighth District - Composed of: Hamilton (part) – Louis W. Blessing, III.
Ninth District - Composed of: Hamilton (part) - Cecil Thomas.
Tenth District - Composed of: Clark, Greene, Madison – Bob Hackett.
Eleventh District - Composed of: Lucas (part) - Teresa Fedor.
Twelfth District - Composed of: Allen, Auglaize (part), Champaign, Darke (part), Logan (part), Mercer, Shelby – Matt Huffman.
Fourteenth District - Composed of: Adams, Brown, Clermont, Lawrence.
Fifteenth District - Composed of: Franklin (part) - Hearcel F. Craig.
Sixteenth District - Composed of: Franklin (part) - Stephanie Kunze.
Seventeenth District - Composed of: Clinton, Fayette, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence (part), Pickaway (part), Pike, Ross, Vinton (part) - Bob Peterson.
Eighteenth District - Composed of: Geauga (part), Lake (part), Portage - Jerry Cirino.
Nineteenth District - Composed of: Delaware, Franklin (Part), Knox - Andrew O. Brenner.
Twentieth District - Composed of: Athens (part), Fairfield, Guernsey, Hocking, Morgan, Muskingum, Pickaway (part) - Tim Schaffer.
Twenty-First District - Composed of: Cuyahoga (part) - Sandra R. Williams.
Twenty-Second District - Composed of: Ashland, Holmes (part), Medina, Richland - Mark Romanchuk.
Twenty-Third District - Composed of: Cuyahoga (part) - Nickie J. Antonio.
Twenty-Fourth District - Composed of: Cuyahoga (part) - Matt Dolan.
Twenty-Fifth District - Composed of: Cuyahoga (part), Lake (part) - Kenny Yuko.
Twenty-Sixth District - Composed of: Crawford, Marion, Morrow, Sandusky, Seneca, Union, Wyandot - Bill Reineke.
Twenty-Seventh District - Composed of: Stark (part), Summit (part), Wayne - Kristina D. Roegner.
Twenty-Eighth District - Composed of: Summit (part) - Vernon Sykes.
Thirtieth District - Composed of: Athens (part), Belmont, Carroll, Harrison, Jefferson, Meigs, Monroe, Noble, Vinton (part), Washington - Frank Hoagland.
Thirty-First District - Composed of: Coshocton, Holmes (part), Licking, Perry, Tuscarawas - Jay Hottinger.
Thirty-Second District - Composed of: Ashtabula, Geauga (part), Trumbull - Sandra O'Brien.
Thirty-Third District - Composed of: Columbiana, Mahoning - Michael A. Rulli.

The members affiliated with the Republican party appeared at the bar of the Senate and were administered the oath of office by the Judge Mary Katherine Huffman, Judge of the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas.

The members affiliated with the Democrat party appeared at the bar of the Senate and were administered the oath of office by the Justice Jennifer Brunner, Ohio Supreme Court.
Senator Schuring moved that the oaths of office of absent members-elect be accepted and spread upon the pages of the journal.

The question being, "Shall the motion be agreed to?"
The motion was agreed to.

I, Matt Huffman, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Ohio and will faithfully discharge and perform all of the duties incumbent upon me as a member of the Ohio Senate, according to the best of my ability and understanding and do this as I shall answer unto God.

/s/ MATT HUFFMAN  
Matt Huffman  
12th Senatorial District

SWORN to before me and subscribed in my presence this 8th day of December, 2020.

/s/ JOHN W. BARRON  
John W. Barron  
Chief of Staff and General Counsel  
Ohio Senate

I, MATT DOLAN, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Ohio and will faithfully discharge and perform all of the duties incumbent upon me as a member of the Ohio Senate, according to the best of my ability and understanding and do this as I shall answer unto God.

/s/ MATT DOLAN  
Matt Dolan  
24th Senatorial District

SWORN to before me and subscribed in my presence this 3rd day of January, 2021.

/s/ WILLIAM A. TOMKO  
William A. Tomko  
Mayor  
Village of Chagrin Falls

The President announced that a quorum of the Senate was present and that the Senate was ready to transact business.
The President announced that the next order of business should be the election of the following officers: President, President Pro Tempore, Majority Floor Leader, Majority Whip, Minority Leader, Assistant Minority Leader, Minority Whip, and Assistant Minority Whip.

The election of the President being the first order, the Chair appointed Senator Peterson to preside during the election of the President.

Senator Steve Huffman nominated Senator Matt Huffman of the Twelfth District for the office of President.

Senator Hoagland seconded the nomination.

On the motion of Senator Hottinger, the nominations were closed.

The question being, "Shall Senator Matt Huffman be elected President?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 31, nays 0, as follows: Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

Antani  Antonio  Blessing  Brenner
Cirino  Craig  Fedor  Gavarone
Hackett  Hoagland  Hottinger  Huffman, S.
Johnson  Kunze  Lang  Maharath
Manning  McColley  O'Brien  Peterson
Reineke  Roegner  Romanchuk  Rulli
Schaffer  Schuring  Sykes  Thomas
Williams  Wilson  Yuko-31

Senator Matt Huffman having received a majority of the votes cast was declared the elected President.

Senator Peterson nominated Senator Jay Hottinger of the Thirty District for the office of President Pro Tempore.

Senator Gavarone seconded the nomination.

On the motion of Senator McColley, the nominations were closed.

The question being, "Shall Senator Jay Hottinger be elected President Pro Tempore?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 30, nays 0, as follows:
Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

Antani  Antonio  Blessing  Brenner
Cirino  Craig  Fedor  Gavarone
Hackett  Hoagland  Huffman, S.  Johnson
Kunze  Lang  Maharath  Manning
McColley  O'Brien  Peterson  Reineke
Roegner  Romanchuk  Rulli  Schaffer
Schuring  Sykes  Thomas  Williams
Wilson

Senator Jay Hottinger having received a majority of the votes cast was declared the elected President Pro Tempore.

Senator Hackett nominated Senator Kirk Schuring of the Twenty-Ninth District for the office of Majority Floor Leader.

Senator Kunze seconded the nomination.

On the motion of Senator McColley, the nominations were closed.

The question being, "Shall Senator Kirk Schuring be elected Majority Floor Leader?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 30, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

Antani  Antonio  Blessing  Brenner
Cirino  Craig  Fedor  Gavarone
Hackett  Hoagland  Huffman, S.  Johnson
Kunze  Lang  Maharath  Manning
McColley  O'Brien  Peterson  Reineke
Roegner  Romanchuk  Rulli  Schaffer
Schuring  Sykes  Thomas  Williams
Wilson

Senator Kirk Schuring having received a majority of the votes cast was declared the elected Majority Floor Leader.

Senator Gavarone nominated Senator Rob McColley of the First District for the office of Majority Whip.

Senator Rulli seconded the nomination.

On the motion of Senator Schuring, the nominations were closed.

The question being, "Shall Senator Rob McColley be elected Majority Whip?"
The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 30, nays 0, as follows:
Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senator Name</th>
<th>Senator Name</th>
<th>Senator Name</th>
<th>Senator Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antani</td>
<td>Antonio</td>
<td>Blessing</td>
<td>Brenner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cirino</td>
<td>Craig</td>
<td>Fedor</td>
<td>Gavarone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hackett</td>
<td>Hoagland</td>
<td>Hottinger</td>
<td>Huffman, S.</td>
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<td>Johnson</td>
<td>Kunze</td>
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<td>Roegner</td>
<td>Romanchuk</td>
<td>Rulli</td>
<td>Schaffer</td>
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<td>Schuring</td>
<td>Sykes</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yuko-30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Senator Rob McColley having received a majority of the votes cast was declared the elected Majority Whip.

The duly elected officers of the Republican party appeared at the bar of the Senate and were administered the oath of office by Judge Mary Katherine Huffman, Judge of the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas and Judge Denise McColley, Judge of the Henry County Court of Common Pleas.

Senator Thomas nominated Senator Kenny Yuko of the Twenty-Fifth District for the office of Minority Leader.

Senator Craig seconded the nomination.

On the motion of Senator Sykes, the nominations were closed.

The question being, "Shall Senator Kenny Yuko be elected Minority Leader?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 30, nays 0, as follows:
Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Senator Name</th>
<th>Senator Name</th>
<th>Senator Name</th>
<th>Senator Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antani</td>
<td>Antonio</td>
<td>Blessing</td>
<td>Brenner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cirino</td>
<td>Craig</td>
<td>Fedor</td>
<td>Gavarone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hackett</td>
<td>Hoagland</td>
<td>Hottinger</td>
<td>Huffman, S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johnson</td>
<td>Kunze</td>
<td>Lang</td>
<td>Maharath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manning</td>
<td>McColley</td>
<td>O'Brien</td>
<td>Peterson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reineke</td>
<td>Roegner</td>
<td>Romanchuk</td>
<td>Rulli</td>
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<td>Schaffer</td>
<td>Schuring</td>
<td>Sykes</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Williams</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Wilson-30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Senator Kenny Yuko having received a majority of the votes cast was declared the elected Minority Leader.

Senator Yuko nominated Senator Cecil Thomas of the Ninth District for the office of Assistant Minority Leader.
Senator Fedor seconded the nomination.

On the motion of Senator Craig, the nominations were closed.

The question being, "Shall Senator Cecil Thomas be elected Assistant Minority Leader?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 30, nays 0, as follows:
Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antani</th>
<th>Antonio</th>
<th>Blessing</th>
<th>Brenner</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cirino</td>
<td>Craig</td>
<td>Fedor</td>
<td>Gavarone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hackett</td>
<td>Hoagland</td>
<td>Hottinger</td>
<td>Huffman, S.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johnson</td>
<td>Kunze</td>
<td>Lang</td>
<td>Maharath</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manning</td>
<td>McColley</td>
<td>O'Brien</td>
<td>Peterson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reineke</td>
<td>Roegner</td>
<td>Romanchuk</td>
<td>Rulli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schaffer</td>
<td>Schuring</td>
<td>Sykes</td>
<td>Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yuko-30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Senator Cecil Thomas having received a majority of the votes cast was declared the elected Assistant Minority Leader.

Senator Williams nominated Senator Nickie Antonio of the Twenty-Third District for the office of Minority Whip.

Senator Fedor seconded the nomination.

On the motion of Senator Maharath, the nominations were closed.

The question being, "Shall Senator Nickie Antonio be elected Minority Whip?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 30, nays 0, as follows:
Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Antani</th>
<th>Blessing</th>
<th>Brenner</th>
<th>Cirino</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Craig</td>
<td>Fedor</td>
<td>Gavarone</td>
<td>Hackett</td>
</tr>
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<td>Hoagland</td>
<td>Hottinger</td>
<td>Huffman, S.</td>
<td>Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kunze</td>
<td>Lang</td>
<td>Maharath</td>
<td>Manning</td>
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<tr>
<td>McColley</td>
<td>O'Brien</td>
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<td>Romanchuk</td>
<td>Rulli</td>
<td>Schaffer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schuring</td>
<td>Sykes</td>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td>Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilson</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Yuko-30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Senator Nickie Antonio having received a majority of the votes cast was declared the elected Minority Whip.
Senator Sykes nominated Senator Tina Maharath of the Third District for the office of Assistant Minority Whip. Senator Williams seconded the nomination.

On the motion of Senator Antonio, the nominations were closed.

The question being, "Shall Senator Tina Maharath be elected Assistant Minority Whip?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 30, nays 0, as follows:
Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

Antani       Cirino       Hackett     Johnson    McColley    Roegner    Schuring    Wilson
Antonio      Craig       Hoagland   Kunze      O'Brien     Romanchuk  Sykes      Wilson
Blessing     Fedor       Hottinger  Lang       Peterson    Rulli      Thomas     Yuko-30
Brenner      Gavarone    Huffman, S. Manning    Reineke     Schaffer   Williams

Senator Tina Maharath having received a majority of the votes cast was declared the elected Assistant Minority Whip.

The duly elected officers of the Democrat party appeared at the bar of the Senate and were administered the oath of office by Justice Jennifer Brunner, Ohio Supreme Court.

Senator Schuring nominated Vincent L. Keeran for the office of Clerk.

Senator Yuko seconded the nomination.

On the motion of Senator McColley, the nominations were closed.

The question being, "Shall Vincent L. Keeran be elected Clerk?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 31, nays 0, as follows:
Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

Antani       Cirino       Hackett     Johnson    Manning    Reineke    Schaffer    Williams
Antonio      Craig       Hoagland   Kunze      McColley   Roegner    Schuring    Wilson
Blessing     Fedor       Hottinger  Lang       O'Brien     Romanchuk  Sykes      Yuko-31
Brenner      Gavarone    Huffman, S. Maharath  Peterson   Rulli      Thomas     Yuko-31
Vincent L. Keeran having received a majority of the votes cast was declared the elected Clerk.

Mr. Keeran appeared at the bar of the Senate and was administered the oath of office by the Honorable Kirk Schuring, Majority Floor Leader of the Ohio Senate.

Senator Schuring moved that the oath of office of the President be accepted and spread upon the pages of the journal.

The question being, "Shall the motion be agreed to?"
The motion was agreed to.

I, Matt Huffman, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Ohio and will faithfully discharge and perform all of the duties incumbent upon me as President of the Ohio Senate, according to the best of my ability and understanding and do this as I shall answer unto God.

/s/ MATT HUFFMAN
Matt Huffman
12th Senatorial District

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 4th day of January, 2021.

/s/ JOHN R. WILLIAMOWSKI
Jjohn R. Williamowski
Judge
Ohio Third District Court of Appeals

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you for honoring me with your votes for President of the Ohio Senate. I am very sorry I am not in attendance today, as I believe attendance is the foremost duty of everyone in any endeavor. For those of you who were breathing a sigh of relief at not having to hear a speech from me, I beg your pardon, and promise to keep this written version short.

I can honestly say that I have never before looked forward more happily to a professional challenge as I do now. I believe we have a singular opportunity to solve many current problems and to create a long lasting framework for good government.

To any member of the Senate, if there is a service I can provide you in my
position, you need only ask and, if I am fairly able to comply, I shall.

I have a few requests of each of my 32 colleagues:

I ask that you consider that we have unique control in the manner and tone in which this body operates. Those from all parts of the political spectrum understand that their aims are often more easily obtained if we disregard the proper and moral way to treat each other. When our passions are inflamed it is easy to do this.

I ask you, therefore, to refrain from excoriating each other. To first pause before considering requests by outside groups and individuals designed to embarrass or harass your colleagues. And finally to receive the well-meaning criticism and requests of each other in the vein in which they are intended.

When President Lincoln asked that the nation move forward with "malice toward none, with charity to all", the situation they were in was much more grave than anything in our recent past or our near future.

One author said of Lincoln that he had the ability to overcome egotism, to avoid taking things personally, to accept his shortcomings and those of others with equanimity. He was strong willed without being willful, righteous without being self-righteous, and moral without being moralistic.

These are lofty standards. But we have hindsight that Lincoln did not have. And more importantly, a fresh slate that the 134th General Assembly provides.

We may not have Lincoln in our midst, though he once roamed these grounds. But we are not prevented from being like Lincoln in the treatment of each other and the truth.

If you ever begin to doubt that you can live up to those high ideals, please remember: "With God, all things are possible."

**MOTIONS**

Senator Rob McColley moved that Senators absent the week of Sunday, January 03, 2021, be excused, so long as a written explanation is on file with the Clerk pursuant to Senate Rule No. 17.

The question being, "Shall the motion be agreed to?"

The motion was agreed to.
OFFERING OF RESOLUTIONS

Senator Hottinger offered the following resolution:

S. R. No. 1-Senator Hottinger.

Relative to the salaries of the officials and employees of the Senate.

BE IT RESOLVED, That the employees of the Senate be assigned titles as determined by the Chief of Staff; and be it further

RESOLVED, That employees be compensated as determined by the Chief of Staff; and be it further

RESOLVED, That pay increases shall be made only upon the determination of the Chief of Staff; and be it further

RESOLVED, That all such employees, property, premises, and expenditures of the Senate shall be under the direct supervision of the Chief of Staff and the Clerk, and these officials are hereby authorized to make such changes and such assignments of duties of said employees as will result in the highest efficiency and best serve the interests of the State. The Chief of Staff and the Clerk are also authorized to discharge and replace said appointees and are authorized to appoint any additional staff as may be necessary to facilitate the work of the Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED, That all of the foregoing salaries be paid from the appropriate funds of the Senate.

The question being, "Shall the resolution, S. R. No. 1, be adopted?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 31, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

Antani Antonio Blessing Brenner
Cirino Craig Fedor Gavarone
Hackett Hoagland Hottinger Huffman, S.
Johnson Kunze Lang Maharath
Manning McColley O'Brien Peterson
Reineke Roegner Romanchuk Rulli
Schaffer Schuring Sykes Thomas
Williams Wilson Yuko-31

So the resolution was adopted.

The question being, "Shall the title be agreed to?"

The title was agreed to.
Senator Hottinger offered the following resolution:

**S. R. No. 2**-Senator Hottinger.

Relative to mileage reimbursement.

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate is hereby authorized to pay the following named persons mileage reimbursement for mileage as provided by section 101.27 of the Revised Code.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>COUNTY</th>
<th>MILEAGE ROUND TRIP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Niraj Antani</td>
<td>Montgomery</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nickie J. Antonio</td>
<td>Cuyahoga</td>
<td>273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louis W. Blessing, III</td>
<td>Hamilton</td>
<td>214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew O. Brenner</td>
<td>Delaware</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerry C. Cirino</td>
<td>Lake</td>
<td>322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Dolan</td>
<td>Cuyahoga</td>
<td>296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teresa Fedor</td>
<td>Lucas</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theresa Gavarone</td>
<td>Wood</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Hackett</td>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Hoagland</td>
<td>Jefferson</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jay Hottinger</td>
<td>Licking</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matt Huffman</td>
<td>Allen</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen A. Huffman</td>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terry Johnson</td>
<td>Scioto</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Lang</td>
<td>Butler</td>
<td>182</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nathan H. Manning</td>
<td>Lorain</td>
<td>242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rob McColley</td>
<td>Henry</td>
<td>308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandra O'Brien</td>
<td>Ashtabula</td>
<td>384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Peterson</td>
<td>Fayette</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Reineke</td>
<td>Seneca</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristina D. Roegner</td>
<td>Summit</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The question being, "Shall the resolution, S. R. No. 2, be adopted?"

The yeas and nays were taken and resulted – yeas 31, nays 0, as follows:

Those who voted in the affirmative were: Senators

Antani
Cirino
Hackett
Johnson
Manning
Reineke
Schaffer
Williams

Antonio
Craig
Hoagland
Kunze
McColley
Roegner
Schuring
Wilson

Blessing
Fedor
Hofftinger
Lang
O'Brien
Romanchuk
Sykes

Brenner
Gavarone
Huffman, S.
Maharath
Peterson
Rulli
Thomas
Yuko-31

So the resolution was adopted.

The question being, "Shall the title be agreed to?"

The title was agreed to.

A benediction was offered by Rev. David M. Ross, Director of Community Engagement for Lima Central Catholic High School and Parochial Administrator of St. Rose and St. John Parishes in Lima, Ohio.

On the motion of Senator Schuring, the Senate adjourned until Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

Attest: VINCENT L. KEERAN, Clerk.