

As Introduced

**134th General Assembly
Regular Session
2021-2022**

H. C. R. No. 20

Representatives Lightbody, Brent

**Cosponsors: Representatives Blackshear, Boggs, Boyd, Brown, Crawley, Crossman,
Denson, Galonski, Hicks-Hudson, Howse, Ingram, Jarrells, Kelly, Leland, Lepore-
Hagan, Liston, Miller, A., Miller, J., Miranda, O'Brien, Robinson, Russo, Sheehy,
Skindell, Smith, K., Smith, M., Sobecki, Sweeney, Sykes, Upchurch, Weinstein, West**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge the United States Congress to enact H.R. 1280, 1
the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021. 2

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

WHEREAS, On Memorial Day in May, 2020, the merciless death 3
of George Floyd, an African-American man who cried several times 4
"I can't breathe" as Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin 5
drove his knee onto George Floyd's neck while on the ground for 6
9 minutes and 29 seconds, sparked multitudes of multiracial 7
protests shocking the conscience of our nation and around the 8
world; and 9

WHEREAS, On April 20, 2021, as the jury verdict of guilty 10
on all three counts of second-degree unintentional murder, 11
third-degree murder, and second-degree manslaughter charged 12
against police officer Derek Chauvin was announced by Judge 13
Peter A. Cahill, jubilant shouts of joy reverberated throughout 14
our country and inspiring official statements and news 15
editorials were heard and read by millions; and 16

WHEREAS, Although the conviction of police officer Derek 17
Chauvin marked a significant and historic moment in the struggle 18
for racial justice amidst the violence and brutality exercised 19
by police officers disproportionately against the African- 20
American people, it is not a vindication for the current system 21
of police conduct and practices in enforcing the law primarily 22
involving African-Americans; and 23

WHEREAS, It remains doubtful that a conviction of one 24
police officer resulting from uncontroverted eyewitness 25
accounts, an excruciating video of the officer's egregious 26
actions, and unequivocal testimonies of fellow police officers, 27
including the police chief, that officer Chauvin's behavior 28
violated the policy, training, ethics, and rules governing 29
police practices, will cause a sea change in the pattern of not 30
prosecuting the police for causing the death of African- 31
Americans; and 32

WHEREAS, Some believe that the conviction of officer 33
Chauvin marks a turning point in racial justice and equity and 34
it may rightly be so, but in reality and more importantly, it 35
marks the start of the long road ahead to achieving racial 36
justice by modifying the criminal justice systems in the state 37
and federal levels that protect police officers from prosecution 38
for heinous acts of violence and racial injustice; and 39

WHEREAS, Pending before the 117th United States Congress is 40
H.R. 1280, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2021, 41
which passed the House of Representatives on March 3, 2021, and 42
is awaiting action in the Senate; and 43

WHEREAS, The overview of H.R. 1280 states in part the 44
following: 45

"This bill addresses a wide range of policies and issues 46
regarding policing practices and law enforcement accountability. 47

It increases accountability for law enforcement misconduct, 48
restricts the use of certain policing practices, enhances 49
transparency and data collection, and establishes best practices 50
and training requirements." and 51

WHEREAS, H.R. 1280 manifests that aforementioned starting 52
point in achieving reforms in the criminal justice system and in 53
strongly enforcing racial justice in all manners of performing 54
police law enforcement activities; now therefore, be it 55

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 134th General 56
Assembly of the State of Ohio, in adopting this resolution, urge 57
the United States Congress to enact H.R. 1280; and be it further 58

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 59
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 60
President of the United States, the President of the United 61
States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of 62
Representatives, the members of the Ohio congressional 63
delegation, the Governor of Ohio, and the news media of Ohio. 64