As Adopted by the Senate

134th General Assembly
Regular Session
2021-2022

S. C. R. No. 14

Senator Schaffer
Cosponsors: Senators Lang, Cirino, Brenner, Dolan, Johnson, Peterson, Reineke, Romanchuk

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge Congress to make changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act to allow a person under 16 years of age to be employed between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. during the school year.

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

WHEREAS, The United States lost over 22 million jobs and had an unemployment rate of 14.8% in April 2020, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the highest observed unemployment rate since data collection began in 1948; and

WHEREAS, Employers are still experiencing a shortage of workers to fill the almost 11 million currently available positions, despite the economy recovering 14.5 million of the jobs that were lost because of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Ohio had lost nearly 900,000 jobs and recorded a 16.4% unemployment rate in April 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and still has not recovered nearly 250,000 of those jobs that had been lost; and

WHEREAS, Teenage workers are becoming a larger portion of the United States workforce, with an unemployment rate of 9.6% in May 2021, which is the lowest unemployment rate for teenage
workers since November 1953; and

WHEREAS, Business owners have had to adjust their
operations in response to the ongoing labor shortage, including
decreasing their open hours; and

WHEREAS, Business owners could more quickly return to
regular operations, including resuming their usual open hours,
by being able to hire the necessary staff to meet their
operating needs; and

WHEREAS, The Fair Labor Standards Act and Ohio law permits
a person under 16 years of age to work until 9 p.m. during
summer months or other school holidays; and

WHEREAS, Extending the hours which a person under 16 years
of age may work during the school year allows business owners to
hire the staff required for the business to resume operating
during its usual hours of operation; and

WHEREAS, Local economic growth results when more people are
employed and earn wages to spend on goods and services produced
by businesses within the local area, which in turn requires
businesses to hire more workers to meet the increased demand;
now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 134th General
Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the Congress of the United
States to make changes to the Fair Labor Standards Act to allow
a person under 16 years of age to be employed between 7 p.m. and
9 p.m. during the school year if the person has approval to do
so from the person's parent or legal guardian; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly
authenticated copies of this resolution to the President Pro
Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker
and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the
members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and the news media
of Ohio.