

**As Introduced**

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

**S. R. No. 172**

**Senators Romanchuk, Hottinger**

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

---

**A RESOLUTION**

In memory of Dick Schafrath.

WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the 134th General Assembly 1  
of Ohio were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Dick Schafrath 2  
and extend our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends; and 3

WHEREAS, Dick Schafrath's boundless compassion, remarkable humor, 4  
and selfless concern for the welfare of others distinguished him as an 5  
outstanding human being and a leading citizen. He lived a remarkable 6  
life, playing with The Ohio State Buckeyes, where he was instrumental 7  
in the team winning the 1957 National Championship, and spending 8  
thirteen seasons with the Cleveland Browns, where he earned numerous 9  
Pro Bowl and All-Pro honors and helped lead the team to the 1964 NFL 10  
Championship. Not satisfied to rest on his laurels, he was appointed 11  
to the Ohio State Senate in 1985, a post that he held until he retired 12  
in 2000. During his tenure, he received the NFIB Legislator of the 13  
Year, Watchdog of the Treasury, Veterans Man of the Year, and State 14  
Government Man of the Year awards, and he demonstrated himself to be a 15  
dedicated public servant whose noteworthy career serves as an 16  
inspiration for others; and 17

WHEREAS, Throughout his life, Dick Schafrath manifested those 18  
virtues we all seek to emulate, and he gave back to his community 19  
through his involvement with various organizations, including 20  
Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Ohio Farm Bureau, the American 21  
Legion, and Cleveland Browns Alumni. Clearly, he led an exemplary 22

life, and it is certain that the world is a richer place for his 23  
having been in it; and 24

WHEREAS, Giving of his time, energy, and abilities far beyond what 25  
was required or expected, Dick Schafrath displayed exceptional civic 26  
concern and insight, and his personal sacrifices to the State of Ohio, 27  
his community, his friends, and his family, including his wife of 28  
thirteen years, Judith, his nine children, Orie, Michael, Jeff, Renee, 29  
Ty, Heidi, Bruin, Gerrit, and Isaac, and his many treasured 30  
grandchildren and great-grandchildren, will certainly live beyond him. 31  
Though the void that his death has created can never be filled, his 32  
estimable legacy will stand as a testament to his superb personal 33  
character; therefore be it 34

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 134th General 35  
Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, express a profound 36  
sense of loss and sincere regret at the death of Dick Schafrath and, 37  
in doing so, pay tribute to the memory of a truly exceptional man; and 38  
be it further 39

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a duly 40  
authenticated copy of this Resolution to the family of Dick Schafrath. 41