

**As Adopted by the Senate**

**135th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2023-2024**

**S. R. No. 343**

**Senator Antonio**

**Cosponsors: Senators Huffman, M., Craig, Smith, Ingram, Sykes, Hicks-Hudson,  
DeMora, Blessing, Kunze, Reynolds, Manning, Brenner, Dolan, Gavarone,  
Hackett, Huffman, S., McColley, O'Brien, Reineke, Romanchuk, Schaffer,  
Schuring, Landis, Lang, Roegner**

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**A RESOLUTION**

In memory of Carolyn Jean Prentiss.

WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the 135th General Assembly 1  
of Ohio extend our deepest regrets on the passing of Carolyn Jean 2  
Prentiss and pay tribute to her memory; and 3

WHEREAS, C.J. Prentiss elevated the State of Ohio through her 4  
indelible contributions to public service, and she left a lasting 5  
impression as a dependable voice for social justice, educational 6  
equality, and marginalized Ohioans. A trailblazing force not only for 7  
her generation but also for many to come, she accomplished more in her 8  
early professional endeavors than most people do in a lifetime and her 9  
transcendent leadership grew through her involvement with such 10  
organizations as Westsiders and Eastsiders Let's Come Together, the 11  
Ohio Cuyahoga Women's Political Caucus, the Cleveland Rainbow 12  
Coalition, and the State Board of Education. Indeed, she channeled her 13  
experiences from these encounters into her tenure as an elected 14  
official, representing her hometown of Cleveland as a member of the 15  
Ohio Senate's 21st District and the Ohio House of Representatives' 8th 16  
District, and her legislative peers evidenced support and esteem for 17  
her character by selecting her for leadership roles. She accomplished 18  
progress for the State of Ohio by maintaining her abounding 19  
principles, and she will be remembered eternally for her tireless 20  
example of courage, resolve, and integrity; and 21

WHEREAS, C.J. Prentiss was admired by her peers, constituents, 22

friends, and family for her positive philosophy of life, and she 23  
championed for legislative measures to advance fairness and 24  
opportunity in public education, increasing the minimum wage, and 25  
funding important programs, including actions to address food 26  
insecurity for children and families. In addition, she helped to 27  
establish Policy Matters Ohio and the C.J. Pretiss Emerging Leaders 28  
Project, and she visualized the success of the Pretiss Charney 29  
Teacher Fellows program. Without a doubt, her stalwart legacy of 30  
commitment to our state will live on; and 31

WHEREAS, C.J. Pretiss made the world much fuller, especially for 32  
the individuals who had a treasured relationship with her, and she was 33  
an endlessly devoted wife, mother, daughter, sister, and friend. All 34  
those who cherished her, including her husband, Michael Charney, her 35  
sons, Maurice and Albert, and her five grandchildren, can find 36  
strength in the embrace of loved ones and solace in the memories of 37  
this truly great woman, for her unparalleled efforts will endure in 38  
the communities where she made a difference; therefore be it 39

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 135th General 40  
Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, offer our sincere 41  
condolences over the loss of Carolyn Jean Pretiss; and be it further 42

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a duly 43  
authenticated copy of this Resolution to the family of Carolyn Jean 44  
Pretiss. 45