

133rd General Assembly
Regular Session
2019-2020

. C. R. No.

A C O N C U R R E N T R E S O L U T I O N

To urge the federal government to designate certain drug 1
cartels operating from Mexico as foreign terrorist 2
organizations. 3

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

WHEREAS, The southern border of the United States presents 4
unique challenges and threats to the national security of the 5
country; and 6

WHEREAS, Transnational criminal organizations based in 7
Mexico, commonly known as drug cartels, are responsible for the 8
flow of opioids across the border into the United States and 9
Ohio; and 10

WHEREAS, The drug cartels are also responsible for the 11
proliferation of human trafficking in the United States, 12
particularly in Ohio, as part and parcel of their drug 13
trafficking operations; and 14

WHEREAS, The drug cartels currently conduct operations on 15
United States soil in furtherance of drug trafficking and human 16
trafficking; and 17

WHEREAS, Abuse of opioids, including fentanyl, and human 18
trafficking are identified as direct threats to the economy, 19



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well-being, and overall vitality of the state of Ohio, its 20
citizens, and future generations; and 21

WHEREAS, The acting administrator of the United States Drug 22
Enforcement Administration, Uttam Dhillon, recently declared, 23
"Mexican drug trafficking organizations are the biggest criminal 24
threat the United States faces today"; and 25

WHEREAS, Section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act 26
(8 U.S.C. 1189) authorizes the United States Secretary of State, 27
in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury and the 28
Attorney General, to designate an organization as a foreign 29
terrorist organization when certain criteria are met; and 30

WHEREAS, The drug cartels meet the criteria to be designated 31
foreign terrorist organizations under Section 219, given that 32
they are foreign in nature, they engage in or retain the 33
capability and intent to engage in terrorism, and they threaten 34
the security of United States nationals and the national 35
defense, foreign relations, and economic interests of the United 36
States; now therefore be it 37

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 133rd General Assembly 38
of the State of Ohio, respectfully urge the federal government 39
to designate the drug cartels operating from Mexico as foreign 40
terrorist organizations, so that the government may use 41
appropriate means to mitigate and eventually eliminate the 42
operations of the cartels; and be it further 43

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 44
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 45
Speaker and Minority Leader of the United States House of 46
Representatives, to the President Pro Tempore and Minority 47
Leader of the United States Senate, to Ohio's congressional 48
delegation, and to the news media of Ohio. 49