

LSC 126 0909

126th General Assembly
Regular Session
2005-2006

H. C. R. No. 20

Representative Schneider

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To memorialize the Congress of the United States to 1
reject any legislation that requires Social 2
Security coverage for members of any of Ohio's 3
five state retirement systems. 4

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

WHEREAS, Ohio has a well-established history of providing 5
retirement, disability, and survivor benefits to its state and 6
local government employees through its five state retirement 7
systems: the Public Employees Retirement System, Ohio Police and 8
Fire Pension Fund, State Teachers Retirement System, School 9
Employees Retirement System, and State Highway Patrol Retirement 10
System; and 11

WHEREAS, According to the Ohio Retirement Study Council, in 12
2004, the five retirement systems had combined assets of over \$129 13
billion, 701,000 active contributing members, and 532,000 inactive 14
members and provided retirement, disability, and survivor benefits 15
to approximately 341,000 beneficiaries and recipients; and 16

WHEREAS, Ohio's retirement systems are solvent and 17
well-managed, as demonstrated by the systems' ongoing compliance 18
with Ohio law, which requires the systems to accumulate and 19
maintain, through employer and employee contributions and 20
investments, funds adequate to pay all benefits promised to 21

members by the General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, From the creation of the federal Social Security Program in 1935, those of Ohio's state and local government employees who are members of a state retirement system have never been required to participate in the Social Security Program; and

WHEREAS, Any federal legislation to require Ohio's state and local government employees to participate in the Social Security Program would constitute an unfunded mandate and would not only devastate Ohio's retirement systems and jeopardize the provision of benefits to members, but would also weaken the state's economy overall; and

WHEREAS, The Social Security Program does not enjoy broad public confidence and may require significant modifications to maintain the Program's long-term solvency; adding the members of Ohio's state retirement systems could extend the Program's solvency only temporarily; now therefore be it

RESOVLED, That we, the members of the 126th General Assembly of the State of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, urge the Congress of the United States to reject any legislation that requires Social Security coverage for members of any of Ohio's state retirement systems; and be it further

RESOVLED, That the Clerk of the Ohio House of Representatives transmit duly authenticated copies of this Resolution to the President of the United States, the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Ohio Congressional delegation.