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133rd General Assembly  
Regular Session  
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. C. R. No.

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**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