

As Reported by the House Health and Aging Committee

129th General Assembly

Regular Session

2011-2012

Am. H. C. R. No. 21

Representatives Slesnick, Ramos

Cosponsors: Representatives Antonio, Ashford, Fende, Foley, Gentile,
Hagan, R., Letson, Murray, O'Brien, Okey, Phillips, Pillich, Schuring, Szollosi,
Yuko, Barnes, Carney, Garland, Goodwin

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To declare the state of Ohio's support of its 1
steelworkers in urging the President and the 2
Congress of the United States to ensure that the 3
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation is fully 4
funded and properly administered to pay pension 5
benefits to retired steelworkers and their 6
spouses. 7

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

WHEREAS, Steelworkers are vital to industry in the Midwest 8
and play an essential role in constructing and reinforcing 9
buildings, bridges, and other structures and in producing products 10
used by other manufacturing industries; and 11

WHEREAS, Over the last thirty years the steel industry has 12
fallen on hard times, causing thousands of job losses and numerous 13
plant closings across the Midwest; and 14

WHEREAS, Steelworkers have negotiated contracts that 15
sacrificed higher wages and other benefits in exchange for secure 16
pension benefits; and 17

WHEREAS, Steelworkers were promised solvent pension plans 18
with funds adequate to pay all benefits promised to them; and 19

WHEREAS, The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation is a 20
federal pension insurance program that pays pension benefits to 21
retired workers, including steelworkers, whose employers are 22
bankrupt and pension plans are underfunded; and 23

WHEREAS, There is a sense of urgency concerning the financial 24
security of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation because the 25
recent economic downturn has caused an increased number of 26
companies to go bankrupt, and as a result, the Pension Benefit 27
Guaranty Corporation is paying pension benefits to more workers; 28
and 29

WHEREAS, In 2009, the Government Accountability Office 30
conducted a performance audit of the Pension Benefit Guaranty 31
Corporation and recommended that the Corporation improve 32
strategies on determining pension benefits in complex pension 33
plans, minimize overpayments, improve communication with 34
participants, and increase accessibility to the appeals process; 35
now therefore be it 36

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 129th General Assembly 37
of the State of Ohio, on behalf of all citizens of this state, 38
support Ohio's steelworkers in urging the President and the 39
Congress of the United States to ensure that the Pension Benefit 40
Guaranty Corporation is fully funded to pay pension benefits to 41
retired steelworkers and their spouses and to ensure that the 42
Corporation implements recommendations made by the Government 43
Accountability Office on procedures for paying benefits to retired 44
workers; and be it further 45

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 46
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 47
President of the United States, the President Pro Tempore and 48

Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of	49
the United States House of Representatives, each member of the	50
Ohio Congressional delegation, and the news media of Ohio.	51