

**As Introduced**

**130th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2013-2014**

**H. R. No. 380**

**Representatives Dovilla, Redfern**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Foley, Strahorn, Anielski, Kunze,  
Damschroder, Buchy, Mallory, Blessing, Baker, Boose, Brenner, Stebelton,  
Ashford, Patterson, Ramos, Fedor**

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**RESOLUTION**

To designate the second Saturday of May as Bird Ohio 1  
Day in order to recognize the importance of bird 2  
and bird habitat stewardship and conservation. 3

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE  
OF OHIO:**

WHEREAS, Ohio has played a major role in the development of 4  
bird studies and research since the 1890s. It provides stopover 5  
habitat for millions of birds as they pass through the state 6  
during their migration northward each spring and also is home to 7  
numerous species that reside in the state year-round. For example, 8  
the bald eagle, a recognized symbol of our nation, has a 9  
significant population in Ohio with a major percentage located in 10  
Lucas, Ottawa, Sandusky, and Erie Counties, comprising the most 11  
concentrated breeding population in the continental United States. 12  
Ottawa County and the Oak Harbor area have adopted the name 13  
"Warbler Capital of the World" to recognize the importance of the 14  
spring migration and to attract visitors to the area; and 15

WHEREAS, Numerous agencies and organizations that recognize 16  
the importance of bird and bird habitat education, research, and 17  
conservation are located in Ohio, including, but not limited to, 18

Black Swamp Bird Observatory, Destination Toledo, Lake Erie Shores and Islands, Maumee Bay Lodge and Conference Center, Metroparks of the Toledo Area, Erie Metroparks, Cleveland Metroparks, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Columbus Audubon Society, Ohio Ornithological Society, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio zoos, and Ohio park districts. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio park districts, and other public agencies and private organizations have protected thousands of acres of high-quality bird habitat across the state; and

WHEREAS, Bird watching has become one of the most popular and economically significant forms of outdoor recreation in Ohio and throughout the United States. Birding tourism contributes significantly to economic development in northwest Ohio. Thousands of birdwatchers from across the country and around the world visit northwest Ohio and the southwest shore of Lake Erie each spring to witness the spectacle of bird migration and to participate in the Biggest Week in American Birding Festival organized by the Black Swamp Bird Observatory of Oak Harbor, Ohio. Studies conducted by the Observatory and Bowling Green State University show that visiting birdwatchers spend more than \$30 million in northern Ohio each spring; and

WHEREAS, Nature conservation, including protection of bird habitats, has many aesthetic and economic values, including increasing the value of real estate located near conserved lands such as nature preserves and properties protected by conservation easements; and

WHEREAS, Public awareness and concern are crucial components of conserving natural areas as well as the birds and other wildlife that live in those areas. Citizens who are enthusiastic about birds and nature, informed about threats to the natural world, and empowered to become involved in addressing those

threats can make a tremendous contribution to maintaining healthy 51  
bird populations and protecting bird habitats; and 52

WHEREAS, Interest in bird and bird habitat stewardship and 53  
conservation can grow by providing more bird watching and nature 54  
education activities involving people of all ages. Many 55  
educational materials are available to schools, educational 56  
organizations, parents, and other citizens to foster public 57  
awareness about the importance of bird and bird habitat 58  
conservation; now therefore be it 59

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of 60  
Representatives of the 130th General Assembly of the State of 61  
Ohio, in adopting this resolution, designate the second Saturday 62  
of May as Bird Ohio Day in order to recognize the importance of 63  
bird and bird habitat stewardship and conservation; and be it 64  
further 65

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of 66  
Representatives of the 130th General Assembly of the State of 67  
Ohio, encourage school districts, schools, teachers, and nature 68  
educators in Ohio to offer lessons and activities to teach 69  
students and other citizens about birds, bird habitat, and bird 70  
conservation and also encourage citizens of and visitors to Ohio 71  
to spend time outdoors enjoying the sights and sounds of birds and 72  
engage in stewardship of the wildlife habitat on which migratory 73  
and resident birds depend for their survival; and be it further 74

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 75  
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the news 76  
media of Ohio. 77