

## As Adopted

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

**H. R. No. 515**

**Speaker Batchelder, Representatives Heard, Adams, J., Adams, R., Amstutz, Anielski, Antonio, Ashford, Baker, Barborak, Barnes, Beck, Becker, Bishoff, Blessing, Boose, Boyce, Boyd, Brenner, Brown, Buchy, Budish, Burkley, Butler, Carney, Celebrezze, Cera, Clyde, Conditt, Curtin, Damschroder, DeVitis, Derickson, Dovilla, Driehaus, Duffey, Fedor, Foley, Gerberry, Gonzales, Green, Grossman, Hackett, Hagan, C., Hagan, R., Hall, Hayes, Henne, Hill, Hood, Hottinger, Huffman, Johnson, Kunze, Landis, Letson, Lundy, Lynch, Maag, Mallory, McClain, McGregor, Milkovich, O'Brien, Patmon, Patterson, Pelanda, Perales, Phillips, Pillich, Ramos, Redfern, Reece, Retherford, Roegner, Rogers, Romanchuk, Rosenberger, Ruhl, Scherer, Schuring, Sears, Sheehy, Slaby, Slesnick, Smith, Sprague, Stautberg, Stebelton, Stinziano, Strahorn, Sykes, Terhar, Thompson, Wachtmann, Williams, Winburn, Young**

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## RESOLUTION

In memory of Merle Grace Kearns.

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the 130th General Assembly of Ohio were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Merle Grace Kearns and extend our heartfelt condolences to her family and friends; and

WHEREAS, Merle Kearns left an indelible impression on the people whose lives she touched, and she will be remembered as a spirited individual who contributed immeasurably to the world around her. A distinguished public servant, she served as a commissioner for Clark County, a legislator with the Ohio Senate and House of Representatives, where she was elected majority floor leader in 2005, and the director of the Ohio Department of Aging.

In addition, she was active with such organizations as Mary Help of Christians Church, the Intelligent Transportation Society of Ohio Board of Directors, the Rotary, the Springfield/Clark County League of Women Voters, and the Area Agency on Aging Executive Board, and among her accolades, she was inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Merle Kearns' regard for improving the quality of life in our society was clearly evident in her personal sacrifices of time and effort to her family, friends, and community. Giving generously of her energy and abilities in all of her endeavors, she displayed exceptional concern and insight, and her absence will be keenly felt; and

WHEREAS, A loving wife to her husband, Thomas, a devoted mother to her four children, Thomas, Michael, Timothy, and Matthew, and the proud grandmother of eight grandchildren, Merle Kearns always used her talents to the benefit of others, and the laurels of her life stand as a tribute not only to her but also to those she left behind. Although the void her death has created can never be filled, the legacy of care and commitment she established will surely live on. The world is a richer place for her having been in it, and she will be sorely missed; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of Representatives of the 130th General Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, express a profound sense of loss and sincere regret at the death of Merle Grace Kearns and, in so doing, pay tribute to the memory of a truly unique individual; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives transmit a duly authenticated copy of this Resolution to the family of Merle Grace Kearns.