

As Introduced

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

S. C. R. No. 39

Senator Burke

**Cosponsors: Senators Eklund, Lehner, Hughes, Brown, Manning, Patton,
Hite, Beagle, Oelslager, Widener**

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate October 2014 as "Start Talking Month." 1

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

WHEREAS, Drug and alcohol abuse and dependence constitute a 2
widespread epidemic in the United States that afflicts 23 million 3
Americans, 11 million of whom are between the ages of 12 and 29; 4
and 5

WHEREAS, Drug overdose has become the leading cause of 6
accidental death in Ohio, surpassing traffic accidents; and 7

WHEREAS, Nine out of ten people who meet the medical criteria 8
for drug or alcohol abuse or dependence started smoking, drinking, 9
or using other drugs before the age of 18; and 10

WHEREAS, By the eighth grade, 28 per cent of adolescents have 11
consumed alcohol, 15 per cent have smoked cigarettes, and 16.5 per 12
cent have used marihuana; and 13

WHEREAS, A majority of substance-free adolescents credit 14
their parents for the decision not to use illegal substances, and 15
school leaders can have a similar influence; and 16

WHEREAS, Children who learn about the risks of drugs through 17

discussions at home are up to 50 per cent less likely to use 18
drugs, yet only 37 per cent of children have those discussions 19
with their parents; and 20

WHEREAS, Governor John Kasich and First Lady Karen Kasich 21
have launched Start Talking! to give parents, guardians, 22
educators, and community leaders the tools to start the 23
conversation with Ohio's youth about the importance of living 24
healthy, drug-free lives; now therefore be it 25

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 130th General Assembly 26
of the State of Ohio, in adopting this resolution, designate 27
October 2014 as "Start Talking Month"; and be it further 28

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 29
authenticated copies of this resolution to the Governor and to the 30
news media of Ohio. 31