

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 130

Reps. Rogers, Yancey, Aiyash, Hood, Scott, Puri, Brabec, Steckloff, O'Neal, Stone, Neeley, Hertel, Sowerby, Brixie, Brenda Carter, Thanedar, Weiss, Rabhi, Young, Whitsett and Jones offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to urge the Congress of the United States to
2 enact policing reforms to mandate anti-bias training, ban carotid
3 holds and chokeholds, require the use of other de-escalation
4 methods before use of deadly force, require body cameras, and
5 address qualified immunity for law enforcement officers, among
6 other initiatives.

7 Whereas, In 2020, the nation watched as law enforcement
8 officers committed numerous acts of violence against people of
9 color, punctuated by the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis in
10 May 2020; and

1 Whereas, Although seeming to reach a tipping point last year,
2 deadly use of force and police brutality have been a serious
3 problem in the United States for decades; and

4 Whereas, Congress has an important role to play in addressing
5 the deadly use of force and policy brutality. In 1994, Congress
6 passed the Violent Crime and Law Enforcement Act after the highly
7 publicized police beating of Rodney King. Under this act, the U.S.
8 Attorney General has the authority to investigate police
9 departments engaging in patterns or practices of unlawful policing;
10 and

11 Whereas, Michigan has not escaped its own share of violent
12 deaths at the hands of police. Saginaw resident Milton Hall, a
13 mentally ill black man was shot eleven times by police in 2012. An
14 unarmed Detroit resident, Malice Green, was beaten to death by
15 police in 1992. At least 21 fatal police shootings occurred in
16 2018, an increase of 50 percent compared to 2017; and

17 Whereas, Nationwide protests have focused attention on the
18 need to change policing culture and for Congress to enact reforms
19 at the highest levels. In April 2021, the United States House of
20 Representatives passed the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act
21 (H.R. 1280). The bill, now pending in the United States Senate, re-
22 imagines public safety by providing grants to community-based
23 organizations, addresses racial and religious profiling, bans
24 chokeholds and no-knock warrants, holds police accountable in
25 court, provides for investigations into police misconduct, creates
26 a nationwide police registry to track officers subject to
27 disciplinary actions, and enhances funding for training. The George
28 Floyd Justice in Policing Act is an appropriate first step in
29 reforming police practices to protect the rights of all Americans;

1 now, therefore, be it

2 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the
3 Congress of the United States to enact policing reforms to mandate
4 anti-bias training, ban carotid holds and chokeholds, require the
5 use of other de-escalation methods before use of deadly force,
6 require body cameras, and address qualified immunity for law
7 enforcement officers, among other initiatives; and be it further

8 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
9 President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United
10 States House of Representatives, and the Michigan congressional
11 delegation.