

As Introduced

**134th General Assembly
Regular Session
2021-2022**

H. C. R. No. 33

Representative Liston

**Cosponsors: Representatives Galonski, O'Brien, Miranda, Boggs, West, Crossman,
Lanese, Russo, Lightbody, Weinstein, Miller, A., Troy**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge support of the "Screen at 23" campaign regarding 1
the screening of Asian Americans for type 2 diabetes. 2

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

WHEREAS, The National Center for Health Statistics in the 3
United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 4
states that diabetes is the fifth leading cause of death among 5
Asian Americans; and 6

WHEREAS, Results from the 2018 United States National 7
Health Interview Survey show that Asian Americans are 40% more 8
likely to be diagnosed with diabetes than White Americans; and 9

WHEREAS, According to researchers at the Joslin Diabetes 10
Center at Harvard University, Asian Americans are also at a 11
greater risk of developing prediabetes, type 2 diabetes, and 12
associated risks (such as cardiovascular disease) at a lower 13
body mass index (BMI) than White Americans, Hispanic Americans, 14
Black Americans, and Native Americans; and 15

WHEREAS, The Joslin researchers have found that Asian 16
Americans face a health care disparity in type 2 diabetes 17
detection and diagnosis, due in part to general guidelines 18

calling for screening at a BMI of 25 kg/m², which misses 36% of 19
type 2 diabetes diagnoses in Asian Americans. These guidelines 20
also cause underestimates of prediabetes prevalence among Asian 21
Americans and the increased risk of both prediabetes and type 2 22
diabetes among Asian Americans younger than 45 years of age; and 23

WHEREAS, The CDC reports that almost 70% of people with 24
diabetes over age 65 will die of some type of heart disease, and 25
about one in six will die of stroke. People with diabetes can 26
experience very high blood-glucose levels, a condition that 27
causes damage to nerves and blood vessels. This, in turn, puts 28
them at risk for developing end stage renal disease and kidney 29
failure, blindness, and lower limb loss; and 30

WHEREAS, People with diabetes have medical expenses 31
approximately 2.3 times higher than those without diabetes. 32
According to the American Diabetes Association, total direct 33
medical expenses for diagnosed diabetes in Ohio were estimated 34
at \$9 billion in 2017. In addition, another \$3.3 billion was 35
spent on indirect costs from lost productivity due to diabetes; 36
and 37

WHEREAS, Early detection and treatment can mitigate 38
diabetes-related complications, risks, and costs; and 39

WHEREAS, Interventions focused on nutrition, physical 40
activity, and healthy weight loss have been shown to reverse 41
prediabetes, improve glucose function in persons with type 2 42
diabetes, and reduce their need for multiple medications; and 43

WHEREAS, Screening Asian American patients for type 2 44
diabetes at a BMI of 23 kg/m² instead of 25 kg/m² would detect 45
thousands of cases of diabetes and prediabetes in Ohio, and 46
would lead to more screenings of Asian Americans younger than 45 47
who have a BMI of 23 or more and are at risk for type 2 48
diabetes. Such efforts are likely to lead to the initiation of 49

treatment or early interventions to reduce negative 50
comorbidities such as heart disease, kidney disease, and limb 51
amputation; and 52

WHEREAS, The National Institutes of Health found that more 53
than half of Asian Americans with type 2 diabetes are 54
undiagnosed, greatly increasing their overall health risk; and 55

WHEREAS, A recent analysis of cross-sectional national data 56
conducted by researchers at the University of Chicago shows that 57
Asian Americans are the least likely ethnic group to receive 58
recommended diabetes screening, with a 34% lower rate of 59
diabetes screening than White people; and 60

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization recommends screening 61
Asian patients for type 2 diabetes at a lower BMI than non- 62
Hispanic white patients, and the 2015 guidelines of the American 63
Diabetes Association recommend that Asian Americans be tested 64
for type 2 diabetes at a BMI of 23 kg/m²; and 65

WHEREAS, The Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific 66
Islander Diabetes Coalition has coordinated the "Screen at 23" 67
campaign with support from over 40 national and regional health 68
organizations; and 69

WHEREAS, The State of Ohio has the opportunity to join 70
California, Hawaii, Washington, Illinois, Massachusetts, 71
Virginia, and Texas to become the eighth state to formally 72
recognize and recommend the screening of adult Asian Americans 73
for type 2 diabetes at a BMI of 23 kg/m², enabling thousands to 74
receive the early care and treatment needed to live healthier, 75
happier lives; now therefore be it 76

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 134th General 77
Assembly of the State of Ohio, in adopting this resolution, 78
endorse and support the Screen at 23 campaign's efforts to 79
increase awareness of diabetes among Asian Americans, including 80

the use of appropriate screening measures for Asian American 81
patients, and to eliminate disparities; and be it further 82

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 134th General 83
Assembly of the State of Ohio, recommend that the Ohio 84
Department of Health actively encourage, through existing 85
communication protocols and internal mechanisms, all public and 86
private health care providers and facilities to participate in 87
the Screen at 23 campaign efforts; and be it further 88

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 89
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 90
Governor, the Director of Health, and the news media of Ohio. 91