

# OFT Human Rights Committee & Community Advocates

## 2026 Joint Resolution

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### RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE WELL-BEING OF ALL OF OHIO'S CHILDREN

WHEREAS, Ohio Federation of Teachers (OFT) represents members from a variety of career backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, members of the OFT can be found in schools, libraries, and social service agencies, which predominately serve Ohio's children; and

WHEREAS, OFT members dedicate their lives to the well-being of "the whole child," which includes, but is not limited to, education, safety, mental health, and having their basic needs met at all times; and

WHEREAS, the United States congress and president enacted the "One Big Beautiful Bill" (OB BB), which in part cuts spending on Medicaid, makes states more responsible for funding the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), takes away nutrition funding, and adds criteria for work requirements for both programs; and

WHEREAS, OB BB also creates additional rules and tax credits that benefit private school organizations that give out vouchers, leading to more families using private school vouchers, which takes away funds from already under-resourced schools; and

WHEREAS, the consequences of OB BB could lead to statewide increases in children losing access to healthcare, mental health services, quality education, and food and nutrition; and

WHEREAS, Ohio state legislators, who are responsible for appropriating federal and state funds, have a duty to serve all of Ohio's children; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, OFT members will continue to advocate for all of Ohio's children as there is an ongoing duty to meet the needs of "the whole child"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, OFT members strive for the community to consider the needs of "the whole child" as pertinent to every child; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, OFT members will challenge and encourage Ohio legislators to put the needs of all of Ohio's children first, which includes ensuring no children are losing access to programs that keep them whole, such as SNAP, Medicaid, and an equitable, fully funded education; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, OFT members oppose, without hesitation, any legislation or appropriation of funds that take away access to any program that helps meet the basic needs of any child in Ohio because it is inhumane and unethical to take away access to critical resources and funding that help make Ohio's children whole.