



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

Wendy H. Gridley

H.B. 31

131st General Assembly
(As Passed by the House)

Reps. Grossman and Stinziano, Baker, Bishoff, Blessing, DeVitis, Dovilla, Ginter, Hackett, Hall, Hambley, Hood, Leland, Maag, Ramos, Rezabek, Ruhl, Schaffer, K. Smith, Strahorn, Kunze, Gerberry, Brenner, Brown, Celebrezze, Clyde, Craig, Curtin, Duffey, Green, T. Johnson, McColley, M. O'Brien, Patterson, Phillips, Rogers, Sheehy, Sprague

BILL SUMMARY

- Designates the song "Hang on Sloopy" as the official state rock song.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

Official state rock song

The bill designates "Hang on Sloopy" as the official rock song of Ohio.¹ The song rose to popularity in 1964 when it was first performed by the soul group the Vibrations, followed a year later by the well-known rendition sung by the McCoys, a Dayton, Ohio rock band. The song was first performed by the Ohio State University Marching Band in 1965, and became a popular standard in the band's repertoire. The song's words and music were written by Wes Farrell and Bert Russell. Legend has it that the song is about Steubenville native Dorothy Sloop, an entertainer who sang and played the piano at Dixie's Bar of Music in New Orleans. Mr. Farrell and Mr. Russell are thought to have frequented Dixie's.² (The song is not about the cartoon dog Snoopy.)

¹ R.C. 5.092.

² "The 'Sloopy' Scoop," *Columbus Dispatch* (September 26, 2013).

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	02-03-15
Reported, H. State Gov't	03-02-15
Passed House (84-14)	03-04-15

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