

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 221

Reps. Hornberger, Allor, Bollin, Crawford, Garza, Love and Witwer offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to recognize January 26-February 1, 2020, as
2 Catholic Schools Week in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, There are 50,256 students attending 221 Catholic
4 elementary and high schools throughout our great state; and

5 Whereas, The Constitution of Michigan states that "Religion,
6 morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the
7 happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall
8 forever be encouraged"; and

9 Whereas, Catholic school parents pay tuition in addition to
10 supporting public schools through their taxes; and

11 Whereas, Catholic schools comply with the same health, safety,
12 and general welfare regulations required of public schools; and



1 Whereas, Taking into account Michigan's minimum public school
2 foundation allowance of \$8,111 per pupil, Catholic schools save
3 taxpayers in excess of \$407 million in state spending annually; and

4 Whereas, Catholic schools instill a broad, values-based
5 education, emphasizing the lifelong development of moral,
6 intellectual, and social values in young people, making them
7 responsible citizens of our state and nation; and

8 Whereas, Catholic schools educate many students who are non-
9 Catholic and many students who are economically disadvantaged. A
10 good education remains the single best way out of poverty; and

11 Whereas, With their traditionally high academic standards,
12 high graduation rates, and commitment to community service,
13 Catholic schools and their graduates make a positive contribution
14 to society; and

15 Whereas, January 26-February 1, 2020, has been designated as
16 Catholic Schools Week, with the theme "Catholic Schools: Learn.
17 Serve. Lead. Succeed." as denoted by the National Catholic
18 Educational Association and the United States Conference of
19 Catholic Bishops; and

20 Whereas, The common good of the state of Michigan is
21 strengthened through the continued existence of Catholic schools;
22 and

23 Whereas, Catholic schools seek to form a supporting
24 partnership with each student's family, encouraging the involvement
25 of parents in the education of their children, so that Catholic
26 schools are part of a solution to form productive lives for future
27 generations; now, therefore, be it

28 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
29 this legislative body recognize January 26-February 1, 2020, as

1 Catholic Schools Week in the state of Michigan. We support the
2 continued dedication of Catholic schools across Michigan toward
3 academic excellence and the key role Catholic schools play in
4 promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for students;
5 and be it further

6 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the
7 Michigan Catholic Conference with our highest esteem.