

The Speaker, on behalf of the entire membership of the House of Representatives, offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 364.

A resolution for the Honorable Doug Spade.

Whereas, With gratitude for his many contributions to the legislative process over the past six years, we are proud to commend and thank our colleague Doug Spade as he completes his tenure with the Michigan House of Representatives. His knowledge and energies have earned him the respect of lawmakers and staff on both sides of the aisle and have benefited our state; and

Whereas, Doug Spade came to Lansing following his 1998 election to the House with a wealth of experiences in community life in the Adrian area community. His 25 years interacting with area residents through his radio career gave him a deep appreciation for the issues facing families in Lenawee County. His wide ranging responsibilities as an operations manager for an Adrian radio station, in real estate, in small businesses, and in a host of community and service groups provided him with viewpoints that have been valuable to the work of lawmaking; and

Whereas, Representative Spade has articulated the concerns of his district and contributed to the development of legislation in many policy areas. He has also been diligent through his responsibilities, which have included his work with the Agriculture and Resource Management, Education, Senior Health, Security and Retirement, and Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security Committees. He was instrumental in spearheading an important bi-partisan, bi-cameral Disability Issues Caucus; and

Whereas, Representative Spade is the second blind legislator in Michigan history. His much-loved leader dog, Toby, is the first leader dog to assist a Michigan legislator. Doug Spade knew the importance of maintaining a positive attitude and a sense of humor. His cheerful demeanor and fun-loving good nature was valued by those who worked with him. His April Fool's Day press releases were eagerly anticipated by members and staff alike. His talents and dedication to our state and the process of lawmaking have been greatly appreciated; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we offer this expression of tribute to commend and thank the Honorable Doug Spade for his exemplary service to this legislative body and to our entire state; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Representative Spade as evidence of our gratitude and best wishes.