

Reps. McDowell, Elsenheimer, Gillard, Lahti, Lindberg, Casperson, Walker and Sheltroun offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 224.

A resolution celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Mackinac Bridge.

Whereas, On November 1, 2007, the Mackinac Bridge will celebrate the 50th anniversary of its construction; and

Whereas, Since 1957, the Mackinac Bridge has served as the main link between the Upper Peninsula and Lower Peninsula, and has become an enduring symbol for the state of Michigan; and

Whereas, Construction of the bridge took three years, 2,500 men, 85,000 blueprints, 71,300 tons of structural steel, 466,300 cubic yards of concrete, 41,000 miles of cable wire and millions of steel rivets and bolts; and

Whereas, The main suspension span of the Mackinac Bridge is 3,800 feet, which makes it the third longest suspension span in the United States and tenth longest worldwide; and

Whereas, The Annual Labor Day Mackinac Bridge Walk attracts thousands of people to make the five-mile trek across the bridge; and

Whereas, The millions of visitors and commercial vehicles that traverse the bridge every year directly contribute to the local economies of Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula, making the Mackinac Bridge vital to statewide economy; and

Whereas, A total of 4,132,810 vehicles crossed the Mackinac Bridge in 2006; and

Whereas, The crown jewel of our great state, the "Mighty Mac" serves as an example of the spirit and willpower of the citizens of Michigan; and

Whereas, The hard work and determination of Prentiss M. Brown from St. Ignace and many others like him fought for over 20 years to guarantee the construction of the bridge in 1953; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body celebrate the Mackinac Bridge's 50th anniversary and recognize the many people who supported the efforts of building this bridge throughout history. Today, the Mackinac Bridge continues to be a great source of pride for Northern Michigan and all the state's residents. We hold this milestone in the highest regard.