

Reps. Polidori, Accavitti, Bieda, Byrnes, Caul, Clack, Constan, Cushingberry, Dean, Farrah, Gillard, Gonzales, Hammel, Hammon, Hansen, Huizenga, Robert Jones, Lahti, LaJoy, LeBlanc, Leland, Mayes, McDowell, Miller, Moss, Nofs, Pastor, Pearce, Proos, Rocca, Sak, Alma Smith, Spade, Stahl, Tobocman, Vagnozzi and Valentine offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 375.

A resolution to recognize May 22, 2008, as Arab and Chaldean American Heritage Day in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, The state of Michigan is fortunate to have over 500,000 citizens of Arab and Chaldean descent among its population. They have made, and continue to make, significant economic, social, and political contributions to our society; and

Whereas, Individuals of Arab and Chaldean origin are a diverse and complex community representing the Middle East and North Africa and adherents to the major religions of the world including, Christianity, Islam, and Judaism; and

Whereas, Many Arab and Chaldean American organizations encourage dedication and commitment to the enlightenment and education of all citizens in Michigan about both the needs and the opportunities that the Arab and Chaldean communities represent; and

Whereas, Arab and Chaldean American citizens, through advocating issues of justice and equity, continue to break down the barriers of discrimination, indifference, and intolerance, thereby making it possible for all Arab and Chaldean Americans to move to the forefront of social, cultural, political, and economic arenas; and

Whereas, The state of Michigan is proud of its cultural diversity and welcomes the opportunity to honor our Arab and Chaldean American citizens for their commitment to leadership, dedication to knowledge, and determination to succeed; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representative, That the members of this legislative body recognize May 22, 2008, as Arab and Chaldean American Heritage Day in the state of Michigan; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage all citizens to recognize the many accomplishments and contributions that Arab and Chaldean Americans have made to our state, nation, and world.