Reps. Rutledge, Barnett, Bauer, Brown, Constan, Cotter, Darany, Geiss, Knollenberg, LeBlanc, Liss, Slavens and Talabi offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 212.

A resolution to declare March 26-30, 2012, as Graduate Education Week in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, A graduate education attracts students from across the nation and world to Michigan universities for advanced training; and

Whereas, In graduate certificate, masters, specialist and doctoral programs across the state, graduate educators are providing access to cutting edge knowledge and analytic skills essential to ensuring that Michigan workers are among the most productive, creative, and innovative in the world; and

Whereas, Graduate students make vital contributions to the teaching and research that underpins our new knowledge-based economy and supports community engagement while serving as teaching and research assistants; and

Whereas, Michigan graduate students continue to change the way we fuel Michigan's economy by stimulating entrepreneurship, improving the quality of life, researching renewable energy sources, water quality, new technologies, agricultural productivity, transportation enhancements, sustainability, management of natural resources, disease prevention, medical innovations, healthcare delivery mechanisms, unique health care issues for children and the elderly; and

Whereas, Michigan teachers and faculty with advanced degrees are creating learning environments that assist Michigan's children, young adults, and lifetime learners to become more productive and informed citizens who are able to meet Michigan's workforce needs; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare March 26-30, 2012, as Graduate Education Week in the state of Michigan.