

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

House Resolution No. 157.

A resolution of tribute offered as a memorial for Howard Wolpe, former member of the Michigan House of Representatives and the United States House of Representatives.

Whereas, The members of the legislative body were saddened to learn of the passing of Howard Wolpe, a gentleman who served his community, state, and nation most effectively and in many different capacities. His intellect, passion for public service, and vision touched lives in Michigan and across the world, and the example he set will not soon be forgotten; and

Whereas, A graduate of Reed College who earned a doctorate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Howard Wolpe came to Michigan to teach at Western Michigan University. He soon became involved in civic affairs in Kalamazoo, serving on the city commission, where he championed fair housing laws for low-income citizens. In 1973, he brought his talents and principles to Lansing. In his two terms as a state legislator, he was a strong advocate on environmental issues; and

Whereas, In 1978, he was elected to Congress, where he earned great respect for his effectiveness working on behalf of his constituents. As the chair of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa for several years, Congressman Wolpe was widely acknowledged for his expertise on issues involving Africa. He was an early and articulate advocate of U.S. policies to combat apartheid. After his tenure in Congress, he continued to represent our country in this continent as a diplomat to Africa in both the Clinton and the Obama administrations; and

Whereas, While Howard Wolpe's varied public life, including serving as his party's candidate for governor in 1994, spanned a wide range of responsibilities and skills, the distinguishing feature of his life and career is contained in a single ideal – his deep personal commitment to serving others. This legacy will long endure; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we offer this expression of our highest tribute to honor the memory of Howard Wolpe, a member of this legislative body from 1973 to 1976 and a member of the United States House of Representatives from 1979 to 1992; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Wolpe family as evidence of our lasting esteem for his memory.