

Senators Richardville and Whitmer offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 180.

A resolution honoring Michigan's veterans on the occasion of Veterans Day 2012.

Whereas, The American people having suffered the hardships of what was then known as the Great War, President Wilson proclaimed that the United States shall observe a day of celebration beginning at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. He declared that November 11 should become a "recurring anniversary (which) should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations"; and

Whereas, Although it began as Armistice Day, the American people came to recognize November 11th as Veterans Day, a day to honor those who have served our Nation, both in war and in peace; and

Whereas, In 1975, President Ford, a Naval Reserve combat veteran of World War II, signed Public Law 94-97 to forever establish November 11 as the date to observe Veterans Day, and declared that "Americans have appreciated and wish to retain the historic significance of November 11 as the day set aside each year"; and

Whereas, There are 21.8 million veterans in the United States, and 723,368 veterans in Michigan, who are deserving of our highest praise and greatest admiration; and

Whereas, The Senate is mindful that each passing Veterans Day leaves us with fewer of the "Greatest Generation" who served our nation in the darkest days of World War II, and who guided us to victory over tyranny; and

Whereas, We are often called to honor those who have fallen in the current conflicts in the service of freedom, and we stand with their families in remembrance of their ultimate sacrifice. We know that another great generation awaits its arrival home from battlefields across the globe, and we pledge to honor them upon their arrival; and

Whereas, We recognize that, whether they toiled on the beaches of Normandy, in the blue skies of the Cold War, or on a remote hillside in Afghanistan, all veterans have served our country in the most important role of government – as protectors of freedom, and have formed the foundation upon which we continue to build this nation; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we hereby express to all Michigan veterans our gratitude and admiration for their service to our state and our nation.