

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

House Resolution No. 407.

A resolution of tribute for the Honorable Ray A. Franz.

Whereas, It is with great appreciation for his hard work and commitment on behalf of the people of the One hundred-first District that we applaud the Honorable Ray Franz as he concludes his final term in the House of Representatives. His dedication and honesty have contributed greatly to this legislative body; and

Whereas, Ray Franz earned a Bronze Star for his service during the Vietnam War and returned home to become a small business owner, local official, and active member of his community. Representative Franz served nearly 30 years on the Onkama Village Council, including as village president from 2000 to 2006. He also served on the Onkama and Bear Lake Village Fire Departments for 30 years, including four years as fire chief. The experience of serving concurrently on the village council, as a member of the fire department, and as a business owner prepared Representative Franz for the role of representing his constituents in Lansing; and

Whereas, Representative Franz was a valuable asset to any committee because his background allowed him to offer the perspective of the military, local governments, and small business owners. During his tenure in the House, he chaired the Military and Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security Committee in 2011-2012 and the Regulatory Reform Committee during the 2015-2016 session, in addition to serving as an Associate Speaker Pro Tempore. He also served as the vice chair of Military and Veterans Affairs during the 2013-2014 session and as a member on a variety of other committees during his six years in the House, including the Agriculture, Communications and Technology, Education, Energy and Technology, Energy Policy, Insurance, Local Government, and Michigan Competitiveness committees; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we offer this expression of tribute to commend and congratulate the Honorable Ray A. Franz for his important contributions to this legislative body and to our entire state; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Representative Franz as evidence of our gratitude and best wishes.