

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.237

Rep. Webber offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare March 2020 as Independent Workers
2 Month in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, In recent years, independent workers (the gig
4 workers, freelancers, temporary workers, and self-employed) have
5 played an ever-larger role in the prosperity of the state of
6 Michigan and the country overall; and

7 Whereas, The increase in work arrangements outside of the
8 traditional employment model has allowed people with busy or
9 unpredictable schedules to choose the hours when they want to work.
10 This flexibility allows some to participate in the workforce who
11 would not be able to accept traditional employment. In addition,
12 independent work can help households quickly overcome a financial



1 emergency without going into debt or taking on a long-term
2 commitment; and

3 Whereas, Acting as their own bosses, independent workers
4 enhance their entrepreneurial abilities and practice the self-
5 reliance and independence that are core American values.
6 Independent work enables individuals to experience more variety in
7 their careers and explore new interests while expanding their
8 marketable skill sets; and

9 Whereas, The independent style of work can also allow more
10 time for civic engagement. In a recent study, independent workers
11 are 19 points more politically active compared workers in
12 conventional full-time positions. Nearly 80% reported voting in the
13 recent mid-term elections; and

14 Whereas, In 2018, independent workers generated over \$1.4
15 trillion to the U.S. economy. As leading innovators and adapters to
16 the changing labor landscape, independent workers have facilitated
17 necessary change and growth specifically within the state of
18 Michigan by both diversifying the economy and providing existing
19 industries with access to their expertise due to their agile work
20 style. This profession may indeed take pride in its contributions
21 to this strong Michigan economy; now, therefore, be it

22 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
23 this legislative body declare March 2020 as Independent Workers
24 Month in the state of Michigan. We honor independent workers,
25 extend sincere best wishes to them for continued success, and
26 pledge to pursue solutions to promote and protect their unique and
27 valuable style of work.