

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 93

Senators LaSata, Lucido, Daley, MacDonald, Lauwers, Bizon, Bumstead, Horn, Wojno, Barrett, Stamas, VanderWall and Schmidt offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to recognize January 26-February 1, 2020, as
2 Catholic Schools Week.

3 Whereas, There are 50,026 students attending 221 Catholic
4 elementary and high schools throughout our great state; and

5 Whereas, The Constitution of Michigan states that, "Religion,
6 morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the
7 happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall
8 forever be encouraged"; and

9 Whereas, Catholic school parents pay tuition in addition to
10 supporting public schools through their taxes; and

1 Whereas, Catholic schools comply with the same health, safety,
2 and general welfare regulations required of public schools; and

3 Whereas, Taking into account Michigan's minimum public school
4 foundation allowance of \$8,111 per pupil, Catholic schools save
5 taxpayers in excess of \$407 million in state spending annually; and

6 Whereas, Catholic schools instill a broad, values-based
7 education, emphasizing the lifelong development of moral,
8 intellectual, and social values in young people which makes them
9 responsible citizens of our state and nation; and

10 Whereas, Catholic schools educate many students who are non-
11 Catholic, many students who are economically disadvantaged, and
12 identify that a good education remains the best way out of poverty;
13 and

14 Whereas, With their traditionally high academic standards,
15 high graduation rates, and commitment to community service,
16 Catholic schools and their graduates make a positive contribution
17 to society; and

18 Whereas, January 26-February 1, 2020, has been designated as
19 Catholic Schools Week, with the theme "Catholic Schools: Learn.
20 Serve. Lead. Succeed." as denoted by the National Catholic
21 Educational Association and the United States Conference of
22 Catholic Bishops; and

23 Whereas, The common good of the state of Michigan is
24 strengthened through the continued existence of Catholic schools;
25 and

26 Whereas, Catholic schools seek to form a supporting
27 partnership with every student's family, while also encouraging the
28 involvement of parents in the education of their children so that
29 Catholic schools are part of a solution to form productive lives

1 for future generations; now, therefore, be it

2 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
3 body recognize January 26-February 1, 2020, as Catholic Schools
4 Week; and be it further

5 Resolved, That we support the continued dedication of Catholic
6 schools across Michigan toward academic excellence as well as the
7 key role that Catholic schools play in promoting and ensuring a
8 brighter, stronger future for students; and be it further

9 Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the
10 Michigan Catholic Conference with our highest esteem.