

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.132

Rep. Neeley offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to support the use of federal funding to provide
2 heroes pay to essential workers.

3 Whereas, Throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic, essential workers
4 have ensured that our society and economy were still able to
5 function. From grocery store employees, food processing employees,
6 all healthcare, hospital and nursing home workers, school
7 employees, airport workers, truck drivers, utility workers, hotel,
8 custodial, college, and fast-food service employees, security
9 guards, correctional officers, state employees, and bus drivers to
10 first responders and many others, these workers have provided an
11 incalculable benefit to our state while disproportionately bearing
12 the weight of the Pandemic; and

13 Whereas, Essential workers have been put at increased risk of

1 exposure to the virus and of bringing the disease home to their
2 loved ones. This risk was often exacerbated by a lack of proper
3 personal protective equipment. Many essential workers have died
4 after being exposed to the virus at work; and

5 Whereas, It is necessary to ensure that essential workers are
6 compensated for their sacrifice and importance to our society. In
7 the United States, more than half of all occupations with a median
8 wage below \$15 per hour are essential workers. While some companies
9 have stepped up to provide hazard pay to frontline employees, many
10 have not; and

11 Whereas, The \$6.6 billion in federal discretionary aid
12 Michigan received through the American Rescue Plan Act has given
13 our state the opportunity to fill the gap left by private employers
14 and provide heroes pay to essential workers. If they are heroes, it
15 is time that Michigan's leaders pay and protect them like heroes
16 and provide real support to these workers who have sacrificed so
17 much during the Pandemic; now, therefore, be it

18 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we support the
19 use of federal funding to provide heroes pay to essential workers;
20 and be it further

21 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
22 Governor.