

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.168

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

1 A resolution of tribute offered as a memorial for Douglas A.
2 Bennett, former member of the House of Representatives.

3 Whereas, It was with great sorrow that the members of the
4 House of Representatives learned about the passing of Doug Bennett.
5 He will be remembered as a dedicated public servant by his
6 constituents in the Muskegon area and the people of the state of
7 Michigan; and

8 Whereas, Doug Bennett was born and raised in Muskegon and
9 demonstrated a deep commitment to his hometown. Doug Bennett
10 graduated from Ravenna High School in 1964 and completed his
11 journeyman steamfitter's apprenticeship at United Association
12 Muskegon, Plumbers and Steamfitters Local Union 154 in 1971.

1 Through hard work and perseverance, Doug Bennett rose through the
2 ranks of union leadership, and served as business manager of his
3 local union of plumbers and steamfitters for two decades. He also
4 served on the Muskegon County Board of Commissioners and the United
5 Way of the Lakeshore Board of Directors, and was a founding member
6 of the Muskegon Economic Growth Alliance (MEGA). Because of his
7 dedication to his community and strong leadership, Doug Bennett was
8 awarded the Harold Workman Labor-Management Cooperation Award in
9 2007 and the Gary Conrad Award in 2010; and

10 Whereas, Doug Bennett's aptitude for leadership led to his
11 election to the House of Representatives in 2004 to serve the
12 Ninety-second District. During his time in office, Representative
13 Bennett served with distinction as a member of the House
14 Appropriations Committee, and had leadership roles on several
15 Appropriations subcommittees, including vice chair of the Natural
16 Resources and Environment Subcommittee, vice chair of the
17 Corrections Subcommittee, and chair of the Environmental Quality
18 Subcommittee. He was also a member of the committees on Commerce;
19 Natural Resources, Great Lakes, Land Use and Environment; Tax
20 Policy; and Corrections, as well as Appropriations subcommittees on
21 Joint Capital Outlay and Transportation. During his service, he
22 sponsored numerous pieces of legislation on a wide array of topics,
23 such as property tax, economic development, and environmental
24 protection. Representative Bennett retired from the Legislature
25 after serving three terms; and

26 Whereas, Doug Bennett leaves behind a legacy as a respected
27 leader in his community and advocate for the working class. Doug
28 Bennett will also be remembered as a loving husband to his wife,
29 Helene, and devoted father to his three children, Sherri, Shannon,

1 and Ryan. May Doug Bennett's family find comfort in the knowledge
2 that his efforts and contributions will long continue to enrich our
3 state; now, therefore, be it

4 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we offer this
5 expression of our highest tribute to honor the memory of Doug A.
6 Bennett, a member of the House of Representatives from 2005 to
7 2010; and be it further

8 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
9 Bennett family as evidence of our lasting esteem for his memory.