

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 331

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

1 A resolution of tribute to offered as a memorial for Sharon
2 Gire, former member of the House of Representatives.

3 Whereas, The House of Representatives was greatly saddened to
4 learn of the passing of Sharon Gire. She will be remembered as a
5 strong advocate for her constituents in Macomb County and the
6 entire state of Michigan; and

7 Whereas, Sharon Gire was born in Columbus, Ohio in 1944. After
8 earning a bachelor's degree in Education from The Ohio State
9 University and a master's degree in Social Work from Wayne State
10 University, she began her lengthy career in public service. In
11 1977, Ms. Gire was elected as a member of the Mount Clemens City
12 Commission, where she later served as Mayor Pro-Tem. Ms. Gire would

1 also serve as a member of the Macomb County Board of Commissioners
2 before being elected in 1986 to the Michigan House of
3 Representatives where she served 6 terms representing the 72nd and
4 31st Districts; and

5 Whereas, Throughout her time in the Legislature,
6 Representative Gire served with distinction as the Chair of the
7 committees on the Constitution and Women's Issues; Social Services
8 and Youth; Human Services and Children; and Education. She was also
9 entrusted with leadership roles on the committees on the
10 Constitution, Interstate and Federal Relations; Economic
11 Development and Energy; Civil Rights; Constitution and Women's
12 Issues; Consumers; and Human Services, in addition to serving as a
13 member of the committees on Judiciary; Public Health and Health
14 Policy; Senior Citizens and Retirement; Housing and Urban Affairs;
15 and Consumer Protection; also serving as the Associate Speaker Pro
16 Tempore. During her tenure, Representative Gire was responsible for
17 the development of policies in education, child and family welfare,
18 and health care; and

19 Whereas, After leaving the legislature, Sharon Gire won
20 statewide election as a member of the State Board of Education
21 where she later served as Vice-President. In 2003, she was
22 appointed by Governor Granholm as the Director of the Michigan
23 Office of Services to the Aging, where she played a pivotal role in
24 helping to protect and care for Michigan's seniors until 2010. She
25 also continued to be an active member of many civic organizations
26 and received numerous awards in recognition of her achievements
27 from organizations such as the Michigan Association for Local
28 Public Health, The Council on Maternal and Child Health, and the
29 Detroit Chapter of the National Organization of Women; and

1 Whereas, Sharon Gire leaves behind a legacy as an effective
2 advocate for her constituents and the members of her community,
3 which is evidenced by her many accomplishments. Her dedication to
4 public service serves as shining example for all those who follow
5 in her footsteps. Ms. Gire was married to her husband, Dana, for
6 fifty-six years and they were brought back together again in the
7 afterlife, as Dana would also pass away merely days after Sharon's
8 untimely death. We offer condolences to her family and friends.
9 Sharon Gire's contributions to this chamber and our state will long
10 be remembered; now, therefore, be it

11 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we offer this
12 expression of our highest tribute to honor the memory of Sharon
13 Gire, former member of the Michigan House of Representatives from
14 1987 to 1998; and be it further

15 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
16 Gire family as evidence of our lasting esteem for her memory.