

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

House Resolution No. 349.

A resolution of tribute for the Honorable James L. Koetje.

Whereas, It is a privilege for this legislative body to thank and commend the Honorable James L. Koetje on the occasion of his departure from the Michigan House of Representatives. Representative Koetje used his experience as a practicing attorney to further the legislature's role in oversight of state government functions to improve job opportunities within the state; and

Whereas, James L. Koetje earned a bachelor's degree from Calvin College and a law degree from Valparaiso University School of Law. He went on to build a thriving law practice that gave him practical legal experience that he would put to good use in public service. He put his public service ideal to work in local church and school organizations, where he served as President of the board of an adult foster care facility and as President of a Grandville Christian School foundation. He also was the president of American Business Clubs. He entered government service in Grandville, where he served for five years on the city council. He was also a member of the city's zoning board of appeals; and

Whereas, When the opportunity to serve the state arose, James L. Koetje stepped forward. In 1998, he was elected to the first of his three terms in the Michigan House of Representatives. Representative Koetje was diligent in his efforts to make sure state expenditures efficiently and effectively served the public. Representative Koetje's attention to detail benefited our state in a number of special assignments. He played a major role in reviewing Detroit Metropolitan Airport and examined the operations of the Detroit regional water system. With his background in business law guiding him, regulatory reform and business development were also issues he promoted. Truly, James L. Koetje may be proud of his service to his community and state; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we honor Representative James L. Koetje as he concludes his service with the Michigan House of Representatives; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Representative Koetje as evidence of our esteem.