

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

House Resolution No. 356.

A resolution for the Honorable Joanne Voorhees.

Whereas, With deep appreciation for her efforts over the past six years and admiration for the manner in which her unselfishness has touched others in her community throughout her life, we are proud to commend Joanne Voorhees as she completes her service to this legislative body. With her dedication and commitment, she has played an integral role in addressing the state's need during a period of challenge for our state and nation; and

Whereas, A native of Grand Rapids, Joanne Voorhees has spent her entire adult life devoted to children. In addition to the love she has shared with her own family, she has been tireless in reaching out to others through her faith, community organizations, and civic efforts to help children in the courts and juvenile justice system; and

Whereas, Joanne Voorhees was first elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 1998. She followed the Voorhees tradition of service to her Kent County district started by her husband, Harold. Much to the delight of her colleagues, she also carried on the welcoming tradition of sharing cookies with members and staff. Most importantly, she has continued her diligent work on behalf of children and families. Representative Voorhees, who also served as Majority Caucus Chair, distinguished herself as the chair of the House Higher Education Committee and as a three-term member of the House Education Committee; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we extend this expression of our thanks and best wishes to the Honorable Joanne Voorhees in grateful acknowledgment of her excellent service to this legislative body; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to Representative Voorhees as evidence of our respect.