

Rep. David Law offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 362.

A resolution to urge the governor to remove Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick from office, pursuant to Article 5, Section 10, of the Michigan Constitution.

Whereas, Public trust is the cornerstone of a democracy. It is essential that people believe in the integrity of the processes through which we govern ourselves and the integrity of the men and women who represent us in that process. Situations or individuals that compromise public trust are a genuine threat to the well-being and stability of any community; and

Whereas, Due to a variety of actions that have taken place in the city of Detroit, it is clear that the community of Detroit is gripped by a crisis in leadership. The highly publicized dismissal of whistleblowers in the Detroit Police Department and the subsequent \$8 million settlement and legal actions have focused public and court attention on the actions of Detroit's Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick. Indictments handed down by the Wayne County Prosecutor have set in motion a process that could extend far into the future, and there is rising concern that the severity of the charges will make it impossible for the people of Detroit to receive the level of service and attention they rightfully expect and need from the city's chief executive; and

Whereas, The impact of a prolonged entanglement of the energies of the Detroit Mayor and the nature of the charges concerning the law enforcement officers and how decisions may have been made in city hall have already hurt Detroit in many ways. At a time when Michigan's most important city faces grave economic challenges, business opportunities lost or imperiled by the situation reflect the damage that could be done not only to Detroit, but to the entire region. Most importantly, however, the serious doubts that citizens have expressed over the Mayor's actions and statements have left little doubt that his remaining in office at this time can do little but further damage the community; and

Whereas, Article 5, Section 10, of the Michigan Constitution provides that the Governor may remove or suspend from office any elective or appointive state officer, except a legislative or judicial officer, for gross neglect of duty or for corrupt conduct in office or for any other misfeasance or malfeasance in office; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the governor to remove Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick from office, pursuant to Article 5, Section 10, of the Michigan Constitution; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Office of the Governor.