

No. 25
STATE OF MICHIGAN
Journal of the Senate
95th Legislature
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010

Senate Chamber, Lansing, Thursday, March 18, 2010.

10:00 a.m.

The Senate was called to order by the President, Lieutenant Governor John D. Cherry, Jr.

The roll was called by the Secretary of the Senate, who announced that a quorum was present.

Allen—present
Anderson—present
Barcia—present
Basham—present
Birkholz—present
Bishop—present
Brater—present
Brown—present
Cassis—present
Cherry—present
Clark-Coleman—present
Clarke—present
Cropsey—present

Garcia—present
George—present
Gilbert—present
Gleason—present
Hardiman—present
Hunter—present
Jacobs—present
Jansen—present
Jelinek—present
Kahn—present
Kuipers—present
McManus—excused
Nofs—present

Olshove—present
Pappageorge—present
Patterson—present
Prusi—present
Richardville—present
Sanborn—present
Scott—present
Stamas—present
Switalski—present
Thomas—present
Van Woerkom—present
Whitmer—present

Senator Nancy Cassis of the 15th District offered the following invocation:

One of the most beautiful passages in the Bible come from Saint John's letter to the Corinthians, I Corinthians 13; then I will end with just a brief passage from Psalm 67:

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am become as sounding brass, or a clanging cymbal.

And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.

And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

Love suffers long, and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;

Does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil;

Does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth;

Bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails: but whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away.

For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

For now we see in a mirror, dimly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then I shall know just as I also am known.

And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

May God be merciful to us and bless us and cause his face to shine upon us." Amen.

The President, Lieutenant Governor Cherry, led the members of the Senate in recital of the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

Motions and Communications

Senator Garcia entered the Senate Chamber.

Senator Cropsey moved that Senators George and Van Woerkom be temporarily excused from today's session. The motion prevailed.

Senator Thomas moved that Senators Barcia and Clarke be temporarily excused from today's session. The motion prevailed.

Senator Cropsey moved that Senator McManus be excused from today's session. The motion prevailed.

Senators Clarke, George, Barcia and Van Woerkom entered the Senate Chamber.

The Secretary announced that the following House bills were received in the Senate and filed on Wednesday, March 17:
House Bill Nos. 5756 5813 5920

The Secretary announced that the following official bills were printed on Wednesday, March 17, and are available at the legislative website:

House Bill Nos. 5955 5956

By unanimous consent the Senate proceeded to the order of

General Orders

Senator Cropsey moved that the Senate resolve itself into the Committee of the Whole for consideration of the General Orders calendar.

The motion prevailed, and the President, Lieutenant Governor Cherry, designated Senator Richardville as Chairperson.

After some time spent therein, the Committee arose; and, the President, Lieutenant Governor Cherry, having resumed the Chair, the Committee reported back to the Senate, favorably and with a substitute therefor, the following bill:

House Bill No. 4370, entitled

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled "Michigan vehicle code," by amending section 320a (MCL 257.320a), as amended by 2008 PA 463.

Substitute (S-2).

The Senate agreed to the substitute recommended by the Committee of the Whole, and the bill as substituted was placed on the order of Third Reading of Bills.

The Committee of the Whole reported back to the Senate, favorably and with a substitute therefor, the following bill:

House Bill No. 4394, entitled

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled "Michigan vehicle code," (MCL 257.1 to 257.923) by adding section 602b.

Substitute (S-5).

The Senate agreed to the substitute recommended by the Committee of the Whole, and the bill as substituted was placed on the order of Third Reading of Bills.

By unanimous consent the Senate proceeded to the order of

Introduction and Referral of Bills

Senators Richardville and Nofs introduced

Senate Bill No. 1232, entitled

A bill to amend 1857 PA 72, entitled "An act amendatory to the several acts in relation to the Wesleyan Seminary at Albion, and the Albion Female Collegiate Institute," by amending section 2 (MCL 390.702) and by adding sections 1a, 7, 7a, 7b, and 7c; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Education.

Senators Allen, Jacobs, Cherry, Gilbert, Pappageorge, Richardville, Hardiman, Birkholz, Kahn, Hunter, George, Clarke, Gleason, Switalski and Barcia introduced

Senate Bill No. 1233, entitled

A bill to amend 1996 PA 381, entitled "Brownfield redevelopment financing act," by amending section 2 (MCL 125.2652), as amended by 2007 PA 204.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

Senators Jacobs, Allen, Cherry, Gilbert, Pappageorge, Richardville, Hardiman, Birkholz, Kahn, Hunter, George, Clarke, Gleason, Switalski and Barcia introduced

Senate Bill No. 1234, entitled

A bill to amend 2005 PA 280, entitled "Corridor improvement authority act," by amending section 3 (MCL 125.2873), as amended by 2007 PA 44.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

Senators Cropsey, Allen, Jacobs, Cherry, Gilbert, Pappageorge, Richardville, Hardiman, Birkholz, Kahn, Hunter, George, Clarke, Gleason, Switalski and Barcia introduced

Senate Bill No. 1235, entitled

A bill to amend 1948 (1st Ex Sess) PA 31, entitled "An act to provide for the incorporation of authorities to acquire, furnish, equip, own, improve, enlarge, operate, and maintain buildings, automobile parking lots or structures, recreational facilities, stadiums, and the necessary site or sites therefor, together with appurtenant properties and facilities necessary or convenient for the effective use thereof, for the use of any county, city, village, or township, or for the use of any combination of 2 or more counties, cities, villages, or townships, or for the use of any school district and any city, village, or township wholly or partially within the district's boundaries, or for the use of any school district and any combination of 2 or more cities, villages, or townships wholly or partially within the district's boundaries, or for the use of any intermediate school district and any constituent school district or any city, village, or township, wholly or partially within the intermediate school district's boundaries; to provide for compensation of authority commissioners; to permit transfers of property to authorities; to authorize the execution of contracts, leases, and subleases pertaining to authority property and the use of authority property; to authorize incorporating units to impose taxes without limitation as to rate or amount

and to pledge their full faith and credit for the payment of contract of lease obligations in anticipation of which bonds are issued by an authority; to provide for the issuance of bonds by such authorities; to validate action taken and bonds issued; to provide other powers, rights, and duties of authorities and incorporating units, including those for the disposal of authority property; and to prescribe penalties and provide remedies," by amending the title and section 1 (MCL 123.951), the title as amended by 1998 PA 190 and section 1 as amended by 1993 PA 121.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

Senators Gilbert, Allen, Jacobs, Cherry, Pappageorge, Richardville, Hardiman, Birkholz, Kahn, Hunter, George, Clarke, Gleason, Switalski and Barcia introduced

Senate Bill No. 1236, entitled

A bill to amend 1978 PA 255, entitled "Commercial redevelopment act," by amending sections 3 and 4 (MCL 207.653 and 207.654), as amended by 2008 PA 227.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

Senators Birkholz, Allen, Jacobs, Gilbert, Pappageorge, Richardville, Hardiman, Kahn, Hunter, George, Clarke, Gleason, Switalski and Barcia introduced

Senate Bill No. 1237, entitled

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled "Public health code," by amending section 22225 (MCL 333.22225), as amended by 1993 PA 88.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

Senators Thomas, Allen, Jacobs, Cherry, Gilbert, Pappageorge, Richardville, Hardiman, Birkholz, Kahn, Hunter, George, Clarke, Switalski and Barcia introduced

Senate Bill No. 1238, entitled

A bill to amend 1980 PA 450, entitled "The tax increment finance authority act," by amending section 1 (MCL 125.1801), as amended by 2008 PA 453.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

House Bill No. 5756, entitled

A bill to amend 1936 (Ex Sess) PA 1, entitled "Michigan employment security act," by amending section 27 (MCL 421.27), as amended by 2002 PA 192.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Commerce and Tourism.

House Bill No. 5813, entitled

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled "Public health code," by amending section 7212 (MCL 333.7212), as amended by 2002 PA 710.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Health Policy.

House Bill No. 5920, entitled

A bill to amend 1927 PA 175, entitled "The code of criminal procedure," by amending section 13m of chapter XVII (MCL 777.13m), as amended by 2006 PA 259.

The House of Representatives has passed the bill and ordered that it be given immediate effect.

The bill was read a first and second time by title and referred to the Committee on Health Policy.

By unanimous consent the Senate returned to the order of

Third Reading of Bills

Senator Cropsey moved that the following bills be placed at the head of the Third Reading of Bills calendar:

Senate Bill No. 1117

House Bill No. 5752

Senate Bill No. 395

House Bill No. 4221**House Bill No. 4222**

The motion prevailed.

The following bill was read a third time:

Senate Bill No. 1117, entitled

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled “Natural resources and environmental protection act,” by amending section 80163 (MCL 324.80163), as added by 1995 PA 58.

The question being on the passage of the bill,

The bill was passed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor, as follows:

Roll Call No. 125**Yeas—37**

Allen	Clark-Coleman	Jacobs	Prusi
Anderson	Clarke	Jansen	Richardville
Barcia	Cropsey	Jelinek	Sanborn
Basham	Garcia	Kahn	Scott
Birkholz	George	Kuipers	Stamas
Bishop	Gilbert	Nofs	Switalski
Brater	Gleason	Olshove	Thomas
Brown	Hardiman	Pappageorge	Van Woerkom
Cassis	Hunter	Patterson	Whitmer
Cherry			

Nays—0**Excused—1**

McManus

Not Voting—0

In The Chair: President

The Senate agreed to the title of the bill.

The following bill was read a third time:

House Bill No. 5752, entitled

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled “Natural resources and environmental protection act,” by amending sections 2001, 2005, and 2030 (MCL 324.2001, 324.2005, and 324.2030), as added by 2004 PA 587, and by adding sections 1911 and 2045; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

The question being on the passage of the bill,

The bill was passed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor, as follows:

Roll Call No. 126**Yeas—25**

Allen	Clarke	Hunter	Richardville
Anderson	Cropsey	Jacobs	Scott

Barcia
 Basham
 Birkholz
 Brater
 Clark-Coleman

Garcia
 George
 Gleason
 Hardiman

Jelinek
 Kahn
 Pappageorge
 Patterson

Stamas
 Switalski
 Thomas
 Whitmer

Nays—12

Bishop
 Brown
 Cassis

Cherry
 Gilbert
 Jansen

Kuipers
 Nofs
 Olshove

Prusi
 Sanborn
 Van Woerkom

Excused—1

McManus

Not Voting—0

In The Chair: President

The question being on concurring in the committee recommendation to give the bill immediate effect, The recommendation was concurred in, 2/3 of the members serving voting therefor.

Pursuant to Joint Rule 20, the full title of the act shall be inserted to read as follows:

“An act to protect the environment and natural resources of the state; to codify, revise, consolidate, and classify laws relating to the environment and natural resources of the state; to regulate the discharge of certain substances into the environment; to regulate the use of certain lands, waters, and other natural resources of the state; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state and local agencies and officials; to provide for certain charges, fees, assessments, and donations; to provide certain appropriations; to prescribe penalties and provide remedies; and to repeal acts and parts of acts;”.

The Senate agreed to the full title.

The following bill was read a third time:

Senate Bill No. 395, entitled

A bill to amend 1893 PA 206, entitled “The general property tax act,” by amending section 24c (MCL 211.24c), as amended by 2003 PA 247.

The question being on the passage of the bill,

Senator Cropsey moved that further consideration of the bill be postponed temporarily.

The motion prevailed.

The following bill was read a third time:

House Bill No. 4221, entitled

A bill to amend 1927 PA 372, entitled “An act to regulate and license the selling, purchasing, possessing, and carrying of certain firearms and gas ejecting devices; to prohibit the buying, selling, or carrying of certain firearms and gas ejecting devices without a license or other authorization; to provide for the forfeiture of firearms under certain circumstances; to provide for penalties and remedies; to provide immunity from civil liability under certain circumstances; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain state and local agencies; to prohibit certain conduct against individuals who apply for or receive a license to carry a concealed pistol; to make appropriations; to prescribe certain conditions for the appropriations; and to repeal all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with this act,” by amending section 2 (MCL 28.422), as amended by 2008 PA 406.

The question being on the passage of the bill,

The bill was passed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor, as follows:

Roll Call No. 127**Yeas—36**

Allen	Clark-Coleman	Jacobs	Prusi
Anderson	Clarke	Jansen	Richardville
Barcia	Cropsey	Jelinek	Sanborn
Birkholz	Garcia	Kahn	Scott
Bishop	George	Kuipers	Stamas
Brater	Gilbert	Nofs	Switalski
Brown	Gleason	Olshove	Thomas
Cassis	Hardiman	Pappageorge	Van Woerkom
Cherry	Hunter	Patterson	Whitmer

Nays—0**Excused—2**

Basham	McManus
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Not Voting—0

In The Chair: President

The question being on concurring in the committee recommendation to give the bill immediate effect,
The recommendation was concurred in, 2/3 of the members serving voting therefor.
The Senate agreed to the title of the bill.

The following bill was read a third time:

House Bill No. 4222, entitled

A bill to amend 1961 PA 236, entitled "Revised judicature act of 1961," by amending section 2950a (MCL 600.2950a),
as amended by 2001 PA 201.

The question being on the passage of the bill,

The bill was passed, a majority of the members serving voting therefor, as follows:

Roll Call No. 128**Yeas—36**

Allen	Clark-Coleman	Jacobs	Prusi
Anderson	Clarke	Jansen	Richardville
Barcia	Cropsey	Jelinek	Sanborn
Birkholz	Garcia	Kahn	Scott
Bishop	George	Kuipers	Stamas
Brater	Gilbert	Nofs	Switalski
Brown	Gleason	Olshove	Thomas
Cassis	Hardiman	Pappageorge	Van Woerkom
Cherry	Hunter	Patterson	Whitmer

Nays—0

Excused—2

Basham

McManus

Not Voting—0

In The Chair: President

The question being on concurring in the committee recommendation to give the bill immediate effect,

The recommendation was concurred in, 2/3 of the members serving voting therefor.

Pursuant to Joint Rule 20, the full title of the act shall be inserted to read as follows:

“An act to revise and consolidate the statutes relating to the organization and jurisdiction of the courts of this state; the powers and duties of the courts, and of the judges and other officers of the courts; the forms and attributes of civil claims and actions; the time within which civil actions and proceedings may be brought in the courts; pleading, evidence, practice, and procedure in civil and criminal actions and proceedings in the courts; to provide for the powers and duties of certain state governmental officers and entities; to provide remedies and penalties for the violation of certain provisions of this act; to repeal all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with or contravening any of the provisions of this act; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.”

The Senate agreed to the full title.

By unanimous consent the Senate returned to consideration of the following bill:

Senate Bill No. 395, entitled

A bill to amend 1893 PA 206, entitled “The general property tax act,” by amending section 24c (MCL 211.24c), as amended by 2003 PA 247.

(This bill was read a third time earlier today and consideration postponed. See p. 428.)

The question being on the passage of the bill,

Senator Thomas offered the following amendment:

1. Amend page 3, following line 21, by inserting:

“(9) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THIS ACT OR OTHER LAW TO THE CONTRARY, A LOCAL TAX COLLECTING UNIT SHALL CONSIDER SALES OF PROPERTIES IN FORECLOSURE IN CONSIDERING REAL ESTATE SALES DATA FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES.”.

The question being on the adoption of the amendment,

Point of Order

Senator Cassis raised the Point of Order that the amendment offered by Senator Thomas to Senate Bill No. 395 was not germane to the bill because it dealt with information on issues, not the board of review, which is the object of the bill, and may be unconstitutional.

The President, Lieutenant Governor Cherry, ruled that due to the lack of a specific citation or explanation of why the amendment was not germane, the amendment was germane to the bill.

The question being on the adoption of the amendment,

Senator Cropsey moved that further consideration of the bill be postponed for today.

The motion prevailed.

By unanimous consent the Senate proceeded to the order of

Resolutions

Senator Cropsey moved that consideration of the following resolutions be postponed for today:

Senate Resolution No. 41

Senate Resolution No. 75

Senate Resolution No. 88

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 35

The motion prevailed.

The question was placed on the adoption of the following resolution consent calendar:

Senate Resolution No. 130

The resolution consent calendar was adopted.

Senator Cherry offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 130.

A resolution commemorating March 26, 2010, as Support Our Troops Day.

Whereas, Our troops who are courageously serving our country deserve to have a day where they are honored and recognized for their unselfish service; and

Whereas, The Interact Club of Waterford Kettering High School is to be commended for seeking out this day to pay special tribute to our soldiers stationed all around the world; and

Whereas, We need to have a day that shows the unwavering support of the present-day soldiers and recognize all that they do for us; and

Whereas, It is important for the men and women of this country who serve to know that we respect them and thank them for their tireless and sometimes thankless service; and

Whereas, We are reminded that our freedoms come at a high cost to all those serving and sacrificing on a daily basis to ensure the safety of American citizens; and

Whereas, We would like to honor our troops at six o'clock Eastern Standard Time on that day by taking a moment of silence to focus our thoughts and prayers on our numerous troops; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we hereby proclaim March 26, 2010, as Support Our Troops Day in Michigan and urge the appropriate observance; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Interact Club of Waterford Kettering High School with our highest esteem.

Senators Barcia, Basham, Brater, Clark-Coleman, Clarke, Cropsey, Hunter, Jacobs, Kuipers, Nofs, Pappageorge, Patterson, Richardville, Scott and Switalski were named co-sponsors of the resolution.

Statements

Senators Scott, Allen, Gleason, Cassis and Cherry asked and were granted unanimous consent to make statements and moved that the statements be printed in the Journal.

The motion prevailed.

Senator Scott's statement is as follows:

The writer Frantz Fanon said, "The present will always contribute to the building of the future." As legislators, you and I write the future of Michigan in the bills that are introduced and then signed into law. We have spent these last years worrying about what kind of future lies before us in these challenging economic times.

Our constituents are also worried about their futures, and for many of them, the future they worry about is tomorrow and whatever bill shows up in their mailbox. We can't do much about a lot of the bills that our constituents have to pay, but one bill we can do something about is their auto insurance bill.

The Legislature created and passed no-fault insurance and required every Michigan driver to carry insurance. So it is up to us, it is our job to now revisit auto insurance and make it affordable. Rate setting has been left to the insurance companies, and that has created huge inequities in what people pay to insure their cars. And the inequities can exist mere blocks away from each other, and sometimes inequities exist among people who literally live across the street from each other.

So it is time to fix the problems that exist in the auto insurance that we require people to buy. Let's do that now, so that in these uncertain economic times, we can at least give people a little bit of relief on one of their bills.

Senator Allen's statement is as follows:

I am deeply troubled with the revelations this week that the CEO of a company receiving a MEGA tax grant is a convicted felon with an outstanding parole violation. I am not here to criticize the Governor's office and the MEDC staff for their lack of diligence in granting this award. The media is doing a fine job of that.

I want to make it clear that the Legislature needs to look at the fundamental structure of how these grants are awarded and whether proper review and scrutiny of the applications, including background investigations, are done. The Commerce and Tourism Committee will begin hearings next Wednesday on the MEDC process, and we are expecting a senior executive from the MEDC to give us an overview of the safeguard measures that have been put in place or are needed to be put in place.

Our legislative goal is to decide whether we need to put in statute the common sense that appears to be lacking with the current internal review process of the MEDC.

Senator Gleason's statement is as follows:

In response to the previous speaker, I think it's always alarming when we see money and resources that are compromised. I do share his thoughts, and I appreciate the effort that he is going to undertake because I think it is needed. All of us understand the great duress our state, workers, companies, and contractors are under. I do think that it's worthwhile to look at the process.

We all celebrate when we meet with success, regardless of the number of jobs or the number of investors that meet with success, but maybe we do need to pause and not necessarily rifle through the process as fast as we have been. This is of interest in my district, and we all have an obligation to make sure we put our workers to work and investors in a position to succeed. I want to commend the Senator for doing this in a responsible fashion.

I do think we have to bring in all responsible parties. For the past few days, I have heard about how irresponsible the administration was. I don't necessarily share that thought because I think all of us in this room and those who serve in public office make decisions based upon information that is shared with them. I think it is completely unfair to put this at the feet of the Governor because she is trying to do what we are all trying to do, and that is to make our state work better and provide more opportunities.

I think when we reflect on what has occurred, we do have to do things better. I don't think that this is the time nor the place to put blame before anyone. I want an administration, and particularly the Governor, that we can hold up with esteem and encourage and collaborate with to make sure that we get the opportunities that we need and deserve. I don't think anything will be served if we continue the assault on the administration that some have undertaken.

I think it is important that we do the responsible thing. When times are tough, that is when we really find out what we are all about and what we stand for. In this troubling time, let's stand for Michigan. Let's not stand against any particular administration or any particular person, but let's make sure we do better in the future. I would be delighted if we had an opportunity to bring over 1,000 jobs to our community and you would as well.

I think we should not take the effort today to place the blame, but use this opportunity to do things better. I commend those who are in the process to offer opportunities to put our people to work. Mistakes are made. I know that I have made plenty. I think most of us would admit they have done the same. I think we need to move forward in a cautious and responsible fashion. But I think it is time to set aside the blame and hold our state as one that is responsible and one that encourages others to come to our state and do business with us.

I ask that we work together on this. Let's not separate our efforts and diminish our chances for future opportunities for investors. Let's let everybody know that this is a great state to do business in, we are receptive to ideas, and we do hastily agree with investment in our state.

Senator Cassis' statement is as follows:

I rise today with good news about some fourth and fifth grade teams from Northville Public Schools, Amerman Elementary, for their recent excellence at the Michigan League of Academic Games Super Tournament. The 36th annual State Tournament was recently held in Grand Rapids.

Let me share with you the Academic Games is a series of challenges designed to test a student's knowledge in several different subject areas. Students compete in games that cover math, English, social studies, and logic. The primary purpose of the Academic Games is to make learning fun for students but also to experience the value of learning and mastering subjects now and in the future. Academic Games challenges students to race to the top and succeed in competition.

Two Amerman Elementary teams from Northville did an incredible job competing at the State Tournament. Fourth graders had two teams. I want to share their names with you: Brian Hu, Justin Lee, Keaton McGuirk, Andrew Mertz, and Laruen Masse made up one team. A second team was comprised of Jennifer Ostrowski, Joseph Vig, Angela Li, and Janak Mukherji, with the help of Caitlyn Moore from Leonard School in Southfield.

These two teams competed with 35 other teams of third- and fourth-graders from across our state in Equations and tied for first place in the state in this game. If this was not enough, they then competed in On-Sets against 30 other teams and again tied for first place in the state. The significance of these events is truly remarkable. Two teams from the same school won first place. What are the chances of this happening? It's not just coincidental. It underscores that achievement is attained through hard work and an abundance of motivation.

Furthermore, Amerman's fifth grade team also competed and won second place in the state in Equations for fifth- and sixth-graders. I want to say that this could not have been done without the support of a positive group of supporters, including many loving parents. I want to specifically acknowledge the guidance of Principal Dr. Steve Anderson and a tremendous group of coaches. They include Coach Dr. Karen Chapel; assistant coaches, Kim Vig and Rui Li; Mark Mause, who assisted in coaching; and Ken Kosmaski, who came out of retirement to share his wisdom.

I want to say thank you to two sets of dedicated teachers: fourth grade teachers, Mr. Ricketts and Mr. Bergin, and fifth grade teachers, Mrs. LaValle and Mrs. Long.

If I have mispronounced some of these names, I am sure you will forgive me. I just feel so excited about what our young people are doing today all over this state. Thank you to their teachers, their parents, their sponsors, and their mentors. Congratulations on a job well done.

Senator Cherry's statement is as follows:

I am rising today because I just received a copy of an article that was in the *Chicago Sun Times*, and it is about the Illinois ad campaign for tourism which is kicking off this week. It is a copy, actually, of the very successful Michigan ads. The ads look very similar to Michigan's. It would be very sad if we continued to have Illinois copying us and using our successful ad campaign if we can't even get ours purchased and bought.

So I am hopeful, once again, that in the next couple of days or so that we can get this Pure Michigan funding issue settled so that we can buy an ad. We have already lost the month of April, and we need to get the ads purchased so we can be on the air in May.

So, Mr. President, I hope my colleagues will put all of their efforts into making sure that the Pure Michigan ads get funded.

Scheduled Meetings

Appropriations -

Subcommittees -

Capital Outlay - Thursday, March 25, 9:00 a.m., Senate Hearing Room, Ground Floor, Boji Tower (373-2768)

Retirement - Tuesday, March 23, 12:30 p.m. or later immediately following session, Senate Appropriations Room, 3rd Floor, Capitol Building (373-2768)

Commerce and Tourism - Wednesday, March 24, 8:30 a.m., Room 100, Farnum Building (373-2413)

Senator Cropsey moved that the Senate adjourn.
The motion prevailed, the time being 11:01 a.m.

The President, Lieutenant Governor Cherry, declared the Senate adjourned until Tuesday, March 23, 2010, at 10:00 a.m.

CAROL MOREY VIVENTI
Secretary of the Senate

