

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 13

Reps. Whitsett, Sowerby, Reilly, Hammoud, Tyrone Carter, Camilleri, Gay-Dagnogo, Stone, Vaupel, Elder, Garza, Sabo, Hoadley, Cynthia Johnson, Wittenberg, Robinson, Brixie, Bolden, Pohutsky, Love, Haadsma, Hope, Manoogian, Shannon and Sneller offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to commemorate in the state of Michigan January
2 2019 as the 90th anniversary of the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King
3 Jr.

4 Whereas, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. sparks inspiration,
5 strength, and determination. He was born on January 15, 1929, but
6 the icon Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was born in 1955 when he first
7 caught the national eye while boycotting a transportation company
8 in Birmingham, Alabama; and



1 Whereas, Dr. King's life was prematurely ended but is still
2 profoundly impactful. Although his time as an activist was cut
3 short, he managed to spearhead the 1964 Civil Rights Movement
4 ending public segregation on the basis of race, gender, or
5 religion; and

6 Whereas, His advocacy and determination helped secure the
7 right to vote for African Americans in 1965. MLK's nonviolent
8 approach taught the public humanity, and the lessons set the
9 standard for how minority populations deserve to be treated. His
10 timeless teachings apply not only to the treatment of the black
11 population, but to any group who has suffered injustice at the
12 hands of the majority; and

13 Whereas, MLK serves as champion for the marginalized and
14 preached to the privileged. He helped foster an understanding
15 between the disenfranchised and the powerful. Honoring his legacy
16 acts as a reminder to the injustice our American brothers and
17 sisters endured; and

18 Whereas, Racism and injustice has not been eradicated since
19 Dr. King's untimely passing. In Letter from Birmingham Jail he
20 wrote "Lukewarm acceptance is much more bewildering than outright
21 rejection." It is the responsibility of this body to embrace
22 diversity and condemn injustice; and

23 Whereas, Dr. King planted the seed of equality. While it has
24 bloomed over the years, it is our responsibility to nurture it and
25 ensure it thrives. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. has set the example
26 for us, but it is up to us as a society to apply his inclusive
27 ideology and accept each other for who we are. We all know he had a
28 dream. Michiganders are encouraged to fulfill that dream and
29 continue down the path of equality and justice; now, therefore, be

1 it

2 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
3 this legislative body commemorate in the state of Michigan January
4 2019 as the 90th anniversary of the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King
5 Jr.