

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 73

Reps. McFall, Brabec, Breen, Glanville, Haadsma, Liberati, Morse, Rheingans, Rogers, Schuette and Weiss offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare April 2023 as Scottish American
2 Heritage Month in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, On April 6th, 1320, Scottish King Robert I signed the
4 Declaration of Arbroath. This was a letter written to Pope John
5 XXII, responding to his excommunication from the church because the
6 King refused to stop fighting for Scottish Independence; and

7 Whereas, Scots first came to North America during the colonial
8 era. Many came over due to the British 1717 Transportation Act
9 which established a convict bond service punishment and
10 transportation to North America. A few decades later, following

1 Scottish defeat at the hands of the English in the 1746 Battle of
2 Culloden, Scottish immigration continued to grow in North America;
3 and

4 Whereas, There are now over 200,000 Scottish Americans living
5 in Michigan and April is a time to reflect and celebrate Scottish
6 roots; and

7 Whereas, Now Scots and Scottish Americans celebrate their
8 independence through Tartan Day and Tartan Month. A tartan is a
9 patterned cloth consisting of crossed, horizontal, and vertical
10 bands in multiple colors, originally made from woven wool. Tartan
11 patterns are typically associated with traditional Scottish kilts.
12 Sometimes Tartan is confused with plaid, but tartan is specifically
13 woven both horizontally and vertically into the fabric. Tartan has
14 a long history in Scotland; and

15 Whereas, National Tartan Day was first proposed in Canada in
16 1986 before the celebration of culture and history came to the
17 United States in 1998; and

18 Whereas, On Tartan Day, April 6, 2009, the formation of the
19 Scottish American Society of Michigan was announced - a new and
20 different Scottish group whose goal is preserving and furthering
21 Scottish heritage throughout the State of Michigan, as well as to
22 help charitable organizations and individuals in need; and

23 Whereas, In Michigan, we have the oldest Scottish society in
24 the country, St. Andrew's Society of Detroit, founded in 1849. The
25 St. Andrews celebrate Scottish heritage in their annual Highland
26 Games, the oldest continuous games in North America, celebrating
27 174 years of competition and tradition this year; now, therefore,
28 be it

29 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of

- 1 this legislative body declare April 2023 as Scottish American
- 2 Heritage Month in the state of Michigan.