

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 73

Rep. McFall 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  
11 Scottish defeat at the hands of the English in the 1746 Battle of  
12 Culloden, Scottish immigration continued to grow in North America;

1 and

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

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8 bands in multiple colors, originally made from woven wool.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

13           Whereas, National Tartan Day was first proposed in Canada in  
14 1986 before the celebration of culture and history came to the  
15 United States in 1998; and

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

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

27           Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
28 this legislative body declare April 2023 as Scottish American  
29 Heritage Month in the state of Michigan.