

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 229

Rep. Haadsma offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare April 28, 2024, as Worker Memorial Day
2 in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Both federal and Michigan law promises every worker
4 the right to a safe workplace. Michigan's Occupational Safety and
5 Health Act declares that all employees shall be provided safe and
6 healthful work environments free of recognized hazards; and

7 Whereas, Still, workplace hazards kill and disable workers
8 each year. U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics estimated that there
9 were 5,486 workplace fatalities in 2022, meaning a worker died
10 every 101 minutes from an occupational injury; and

11 Whereas, The U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics reported 139
12 Michigan workers lost their lives in workplace accidents in 2022.

1 Untold more suffered disabling injury and illness. As recently as
2 April 18, 2023, a young Michigander only 19 years old was
3 tragically killed in a workplace accident when he was fatally
4 crushed by heavy machinery; and

5 Whereas, It is appropriate to honor the memory of the
6 courageous and resolute members of Michigan's labor force who have
7 been injured or disabled or have died because of workplace
8 accidents; and

9 Whereas, We remember those who have died in workplace
10 catastrophes, suffered occupational-related diseases, or have been
11 injured due to dangerous conditions; and

12 Whereas, Recognition of the integrity of Michigan's workforce
13 and its achievements on behalf of the economic growth of our state
14 is necessary; and

15 Whereas, Michigan's workforce is the backbone of this state's
16 economic growth. Every effort needs to be made to improve workplace
17 health and safety conditions, to increase workplace safety
18 standards and enforcement, and to provide hardworking Michiganders
19 with fair and just compensation; now, therefore, be it

20 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
21 this legislative body declare April 28, 2024, as Worker Memorial
22 Day in the state of Michigan. We join communities and worksites
23 across the world and our state to honor friends, family members,
24 and colleagues, who have been killed or injured on the job and
25 honor the contributions of Michigan's workforce and call for
26 increased workplace safety.