

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 11

Rep. Schmaltz offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare January 26-February 1, 2025, as
2 Catholic Schools Week in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, There are 51,497 students attending 214 Catholic
4 elementary and high schools throughout our great state; and

5 Whereas, The Constitution of Michigan states that "Religion,
6 morality, and knowledge being necessary to good government and the
7 happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall
8 forever be encouraged"; and

9 Whereas, Catholic school parents pay tuition in addition to
10 supporting their local public schools through their taxes; and

11 Whereas, Catholic schools comply with the same health, safety,
12 and general welfare regulations required of public schools; and

13 Whereas, Taking into account Michigan's minimum public school
14 foundation allowance of \$9,608 per pupil, Catholic schools save

1 taxpayers more than \$494 million in state spending during the
2 current school year; and

3 Whereas, Catholic schools instill a broad, values-based
4 education, emphasizing the lifelong development of moral,
5 intellectual, and social values in young people, making them
6 responsible citizens of our state and nation; and

7 Whereas, Catholic schools educate many students who are non-
8 Catholic, many students who are economically disadvantaged as a
9 good education remains the single best way out of poverty; and

10 Whereas, With their traditionally high academic standards,
11 high graduation rates, and commitment to community service,
12 Catholic schools and their graduates make a positive contribution
13 to society; and

14 Whereas, January 26-February 1, 2025, has been designated as
15 Catholic Schools Week, with the theme "Catholic Schools: United in
16 Faith and Community" as denoted by the National Catholic
17 Educational Association and the United States Conference of
18 Catholic Bishops; and

19 Whereas, The common good of the state of Michigan is
20 strengthened through the continued existence of Catholic schools;
21 and

22 Whereas, Catholic schools are committed to community service,
23 producing graduates who hold "helping others" among their core
24 values; and

25 Whereas, Catholic schools create a supporting partnership with
26 each student's family, encouraging the involvement of parents in
27 the education of their children, so that Catholic schools form
28 productive lives which benefit future generations; now, therefore,
29 be it

1 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
2 this legislative body declare January 26-February 1, 2025, as
3 Catholic Schools Week in the state of Michigan. We support the
4 continued dedication of Catholic schools across Michigan toward
5 academic excellence and the key role Catholic schools play in
6 promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for students;
7 and be it further

8 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the
9 Michigan Catholic Conference with our highest esteem.