

No. 19

JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE

House Chamber, Lansing, Thursday, March 6, 1997.

9:30 a.m.

The House was called to order by the Speaker Pro Tempore.

The roll was called by the Clerk of the House of Representatives, who announced that a quorum was present.

Agee—present	Fitzgerald—present	Kaza—present	Price—present
Alley—present	Frank—present	Kelly—present	Profit—present
Anthony—present	Freeman—present	Kilpatrick—present	Prusi—present
Baade—present	Gagliardi—present	Kukuk—present	Quarles—present
Baird—present	Galloway—present	LaForge—present	Rackowski—present
Bankes—present	Geiger—present	Law—present	Rhead—present
Birkholz—present	Gernaat—present	Leland—present	Richner—present
Bobier—present	Gilmer—present	LeTarte—present	Rison—present
Bodem—present	Gire—present	Llewellyn—present	Rocca—present
Bogardus—present	Godchaux—present	London—present	Schauer—present
Brackenridge—present	Goschka—present	Lowe—present	Schermesser—present
Brater—present	Green—present	Mans—present	Schroer—present
Brewer—present	Griffin—present	Martinez—present	Scott—present
Brown—present	Gubow—present	Mathieu—present	Scranton—present
Byl—present	Gustafson—present	McBryde—present	Sikkema—present
Callahan—present	Hale—present	McManus—present	Stallworth—present
Cassis—present	Hammerstrom—present	McNutt—present	Tesanovich—present
Cherry—present	Hanley—present	Middaugh—present	Thomas—present
Ciaramitaro—present	Harder—present	Middleton—present	Varga—present
Crissman—present	Hertel—present	Murphy—present	Vaughn—present
Cropsey—present	Hood—present	Nye—present	Voorhees—present
Curtis—present	Horton—present	Olshove—present	Walberg—present
Dalman—present	Jansen—present	Owen—present	Wallace—present
DeHart—present	Jaye—present	Oxender—present	Wetters—present
DeVuyst—present	Jelinek—present	Palamara—present	Whyman—present
Dobb—present	Jellema—present	Parks—present	Willard—present
Dobronski—present	Johnson—present	Perricone—present	Wojno—present
Emerson—present			

e/d/s = entered during session

The Rev. Doug Van Bronkhurst, Pastor, First Reformed Church, Grandville, offered the following invocation:

“Heavenly Father, Thank You for today’s opportunities to serve the people of Michigan—to learn and work together to welcome the President of the United States. We pray for vision and wisdom for President Clinton, for Governor Engler, the members of this Legislature, and for all the leaders in government and education. May this time be helpful to every citizen—especially to students, teachers and school administrators. We ask for Your peace and for Your favor on this most unique occasion. Amen.”

The Speaker Pro Tempore called the Associate Speaker Pro Tempore to the Chair.

Notices

March 6, 1997

Mary Kay Scullion, Clerk
Michigan House of Representatives
Capitol Building
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Dear Madam Clerk:

In accordance with House Rule 10, I hereby designate Representative Eileen DeHart, to be the Presiding Officer for all, or part of today’s session.

Sincerely,
Curtis Hertel
Speaker of the House

March 6, 1997

Mary Kay Scullion, Clerk
Michigan House of Representatives
Capitol Building
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Dear Madam Clerk:

In accordance with House Rule 10, I hereby designate Representative Michael Hanley, to be the Presiding Officer for all, or part of today’s session.

Sincerely,
Curtis Hertel
Speaker of the House

By unanimous consent the House returned to the order of
Motions and Resolutions

The Associate Speaker Pro Tempore called Acting Speaker DeHart to the Chair.

Rep. Cherry moved that a special committee of eight members be appointed to notify the Senate that the House was ready to meet the Senate in Joint Convention.

The motion prevailed.

The Speaker appointed as such committee Representatives Baird and Thomas, Schauer and Frank, Johnson and LeTarte, Lowe and McNutt.

Acting Speaker DeHart called Acting Speaker Hanley to the Chair.

The special committee to notify the Senate that the House was ready to meet in Joint Convention returned to the House along with the members of the Senate.

The committee, through its Chairperson, reported that it had performed the duty assigned it. The report was accepted and the committee discharged.

The Sergeant at Arms announced the members of the Senate, who were admitted and conducted to seats.

Joint Convention

10:00 o'clock a.m.

The Joint Convention was called to order by the President of the Joint Convention, The Hon. Connie Binsfeld.

The Reverend Wendell Anthony, Pastor, Fellowship Chapel, Detroit, offered the following invocation:

“Great God, Thou who are the infinite incarnate spirit of the universe, we pause now to give Thee thanks and to give Thee praise. We thank Thee for life and for the ability to serve Thee. We thank Thee for endowing within us the spirit of the Living God which blows fresh on each one of us. We pray, Almighty God, that we may be a nation of people which understands that more important than being just a great nation, is to be a nation that has the greatness to be just.

We thank Thee, Almighty God, for our children—for children are indeed the key to our future and we know that education is indeed the key. We pray that we might be able to educate them and to motivate them for You have taught us all to train up a child in the way he or she should go so that when they are old they shall not depart from it. We pray that we might be a people who can bridge the gap between theory and practice and that we practice the education, the leadership and accountability that we see. We pray for teachers, administrators, union officials and for legislative leaders who are the decision-makers over the outcome of the lives of our children. We pray, Almighty God, that the divisiveness might cease and that they may see how good and pleasant it is when men and women can dwell together in unity—for in unity, there is commonality and strength.

Almighty God, we pray that You might bless us with the reflection of the spirit, and the motivation of the season of Easter. We know that as we have gone through the crucifixion on so many occasions that there is indeed a resurrection. We pray that You might bless us and empower us, but most of all we pray that You will never leave us unto ourselves. To Thine be the glory and the power and the honor forever and forever. We are bold to ask this in the name of He, who came for us to have life and to have it more abundantly, Our Brother and Our Master Teacher, Jesus Christ, and to reflect on these words—we are not what we ought to be until our people everywhere are what they should be. The people of God all said, Amen.”

The roll of the Senate was called by the Secretary, who announced that a quorum of the Senate was present.

The roll of the House was called by the Clerk, who announced that a quorum of the House was present.

The President of the Joint Convention announced that the two Houses had met in Joint Convention to receive the address of the President of the United States, the Honorable William Jefferson Clinton.

Senator DeGrow moved that a special committee, consisting of two Representatives and two Senators, be appointed to invite and escort the State Officers to the Joint Convention.

The motion prevailed.

The President of the Joint Convention named as such committee Representatives DeHart and Goschka, and Senators Hart and Gougeon.

The Sergeant at Arms announced the special committee appointed to invite the State Officers to be present at the Joint Convention.

The State Officers, escorted by the committee, were conducted to seats.

Senator DeGrow moved that a special committee, consisting of two Representatives and two Senators, be appointed to invite and escort the Board of Education Members to the Joint Convention.

The motion prevailed.

The President of the Joint Convention named as such committee Representatives Quarles and Rhead, and Senators DeBeaussaert and Emmons.

The Sergeant at Arms announced the special committee appointed to invite the Board of Education Members to be present at the Joint Convention.

The Board of Education Members, escorted by the committee, were conducted to seats.

The Speaker Pro Tempore resumed the Chair.

Rep. Cherry moved that a special committee, consisting of two Representatives and two Senators, be appointed to invite and escort the Justices of the Supreme Court and the Officers of the Court of Appeals to the Joint Convention.

The motion prevailed.

The President of the Joint Convention named as such committee Representatives Hanley and McManus, and Senators Dingell and Bennett.

The Sergeant at Arms announced the special committee appointed to invite the Justices of the Supreme Court and the Officers of the Court of Appeals to be present at the Joint Convention.

The Justices of the Supreme Court and the Officers of the Court of Appeals, escorted by the committee, were conducted to seats.

Rep. Cherry moved that a special committee, consisting of two Representatives and two Senators, be appointed to invite and escort the President of the United States and the Governor to the Joint Convention.

The motion prevailed.

The President of the Joint Convention named as such committee Speaker Hertel and House Republican Leader Sikkema, and Senate Majority Leader Posthumus and Senate Minority Leader Cherry.

The Sergeant at Arms announced the special committee to wait on the President of the United States and the Governor.

The President of the United States and the Governor, escorted by the committee, were conducted to the rostrum.

Rep. Gagliardi moved that the remarks of Speaker Hertel and Governor Engler be printed in the Journal.

The motion prevailed.

Speaker Hertel:

“Thank you Madam Chair; Members of the Joint Convention and honored guests, Mr. President, it is my honor as Speaker of the House to welcome you to the people’s House here in the state of Michigan. Let me express to you how grateful we all are that you have selected our state capitol to speak to our nation regarding this most important of topics, the education of our children. As most of you know by now, the last President to address this assembled body from this podium was President Theodore Roosevelt some 90 years ago.

It is fitting, Mr. President, that you grant us this honor today because of the many similarities between you and President Roosevelt. Like you, Mr. President, President Roosevelt led the fight in our nation to preserve and protect our environment. And, like you, Mr. President, President Roosevelt fought to strengthen the economic condition of working families in America. And, most importantly, Mr. President, like you President Roosevelt understood the need to provide a quality education for every American. And, Mr. President, just as Teddy Roosevelt led his rough riders up San Juan hill, you are leading this nation into the twenty-first century. Mr. President, we here in Michigan are ready to follow. And, now it is my privilege to introduce to the Joint Convention the Governor of the state of Michigan, John Engler.”

Governor Engler:

“Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. President, welcome to Michigan. Mr. President, Lieutenant Governor Binsfeld, Mr. Chief Justice, Members of the House and Senate, Members of Congress, Secretary of Education Dick Riley, Governor Blanchard, ladies and gentlemen, this day is historic. The only other time a sitting President addressed a Joint Session of the Michigan Legislature was ninety years ago when Theodore Roosevelt came to town. Attorney General Frank Kelley tells me it was quite an occasion. General Kelley actually served with General Clinton as attorney general. He’s got quite a history. Governor Fred Warner who serving the second of his three terms introduced President Roosevelt who began his remarks by commenting how deeply touched he was by the warm Michigan welcome. Mr. President, I hope you are equally touched today by the warmth of your welcome. Your visit is a significant event because we are focused on a significant challenge—improving the education of all of our children. No challenge confronting our state and nation is more urgent. Where our children are concerned, our search is not strictly for a Republican solution or strictly Democratic solution—but an American solution. A solution that unites rich and poor, parents and teachers, principals and employers. Mr. President, you said as much when you rightly insisted that politics must stop at the schoolhouse door. In that spirit, you and I have had extremely productive talks about education reform and it turns out that we share much common ground. In your recent State of the Union message you said, and I quote, ‘every state should give parents the power to choose the right public school for their children, their right to choose will foster competition and innovation that will make public schools better.’ Mr. President, we agree. Here in Michigan our state law allows parents to send their children to schools regardless of where they live. And, our charter public schools have

become another means of fostering innovation and choice. In just three years 77 of these public schools have opened their doors—the third largest number in the nation. They enroll some twelve thousand Michigan Children. Our great lakes state will do its part to help meet your goal of establishing three thousand new schools by the turn of the century. Mr. President, we also agree with your call to restore discipline and order in the classroom. Our state has the nation's toughest law when it comes to protecting students from classmates who bring weapons to school. And, this session we will pass a law that protects every teacher from violence in the classroom. Another area of common concern, Mr. President, is the need to test our students mastery of basic academic skills. As I have indicated to you I strongly support your proposal to make national and international reading and math tests available to the states. Your initiative builds on work begun at last year's National Education Summit and it challenges every state to benchmark itself against the best in the world. This morning I am pleased to announce that Michigan accepts your challenge. We will be the first state in the nation to measure student achievement against the rest of the world. I pledge to work with you to make your proposal a reality here in Michigan beginning with the 1998 school year. The timing of your proposal couldn't have been better. Just last week, Secretary of Education, Dick Riley, announced that over the past six years Michigan eighth grade math scores have shown the second greatest improvement in the nation. In singling Michigan out, Secretary Riley praised our twelve-point jump in scores as a tremendous achievement. Indeed, it is a tremendous achievement—not only for our students, but also for the teachers who prepared them. So to Michigan's math teachers I say, thank you for a job well done. Mr. President, another bit of good news, and this is especially for you, one of the Michigan districts showing terrific improvement over the past few years is the Clintondale district.

One final point, President Clinton, you have been exhorting governors and state legislatures to make the most out of the welfare reform law that transfers authority out of Washington to the states—Michigan is. And, we thank you Mr. President for the opportunities you have given families by signing that landmark legislation. Michigan's welfare reforms are working. Each month brings reports of more and more families declaring their independence. Significantly, welfare caseloads have decreased 34 consecutive months and the number of recipients is at its lowest since September of 1971. The point is, when our schools do an even better job there will be even fewer families needing welfare. When President Roosevelt came to town in 1907, it was in many ways a different world. The President arrived by train. He came up Michigan Avenue in a procession of eight carriages. The spectators that lined the streets on that occasion were using a new-fangled device, a Kodak camera. Some things haven't changed over the past 90 years, like parents loving their children and hoping for a better future. Then as now public education plays a central role in preparing children for that future. President Roosevelt summed it up this way, 'it is out of the question for our people as a whole permanently to rise by treading down on any of their own number. The free public school, the chance for each boy or girl to get a good education, lies at the foundation of our whole political system.' Mr. President, we thank you for coming to Michigan and we welcome you. We are delighted with this visit."

The Speaker of the House of Representatives then introduced The President of the United States, William Jefferson Clinton who gave his Address to the Joint Convention as follows:

"Thank you. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Governor. Thank you all for that wonderful welcome in this magnificent Capitol. I'm delighted to be here today with so many of your state officials—Lieutenant Governor Binsfeld; your State Board of Education president, Kathleen Strauss. I don't know if Frank Kelley met Theodore Roosevelt, but he did meet me when I became Attorney General. And some days I feel about that old.

I want to thank the Mayor of Lansing, Mayor Hollister, for meeting me at the airport, and all the other state officials and dignitaries who are here—Representative Sikkema, thank you, sir; and Senator Cherry and Senator Posthumus.

I want to thank the members of Congress and others who flew down here with me today—your former Governor, Jim Blanchard and his wife; Congressman Dingell; your Congresswoman from here, Congresswoman Debbie Stabenow; Representative Levin; Representative Kilpatrick; Representative Conyers; Representative Stupak; Representative Camp; and Representative Hoekstra and Representative Barcia. Did I get them all? Nine, yes, we only had nine here.

I could only muster nine, but that's a quorum—even in the state legislature of the Michigan delegation. I thank them for coming down. Thank you, Wendell Anthony, for your invocation, and thank you for making me feel so welcome.

When I came in, the Speaker and I were looking up at this magnificent ceiling, and I noticed that the seal of the State of Michigan was right next to the seal of my home state of Arkansas. And maybe one reason for that is that the Congress approved us coming into the Union at the same time.

I was reading also the account of Theodore Roosevelt coming here 90 years ago. I know you have partisan differences today. You might be interested to know that 90 years ago there were 32 Republicans and no Democrats in the Senate. If you clap too much, I've got a great closing line—Governor, you'll get mad at it. There were 95 Republicans and five Democrats in the House. And it was the aftermath of the Civil War.

I say this because our two states have been entwined in an interesting way over the course of time. We were allowed together into the Union because Michigan was a free state and Arkansas was a southern slave state, and Michigan became the party—adhering to the party of Abraham Lincoln, of freedom, and the party of Theodore Roosevelt, which the Governor explained. And most of us Democrats are pretty proud of those folks too. They represent the best in America.

Then, after the Great Depression, Michigan basically became the home of tens of thousands of people from my state who simply could not make a living anymore on the farm, and the factories of Michigan gave people from Arkansas, black and white together, the chance to come up here and build a decent middle class life and educate their children and be a part of what was then America's future. So anybody from my roots must be exceedingly grateful to the people of Michigan and the history and the heritage of Michigan.

When Theodore Roosevelt was here, he was going to Michigan State to address the graduates there, just as I did a couple of years ago. And I might say the President of Michigan State is here, and I told him today that he gave me a picture of Theodore Roosevelt's address to the graduates at Michigan State, and it now hangs on my office wall at the White House—at the entrance to my little private office off the Oval Office and I look up there and see Teddy Roosevelt speaking every day that I go to work.

Before that, he came here and when he spoke here I suppose the place looked about like it does now, thanks to your magnificent renovation, and I applaud you for doing this. People all over America should remember it's worth investing a little money to protect your roots and your heritage, and the beauty and meaning of what we were, as well as what we hope to be.

In 1907 when Teddy Roosevelt came here we were at the dawn of the Industrial Era. This building had been wired for electricity only two years before he showed up. And when President Roosevelt left here to go to the college campus, he got in a newfangled contraption called a Reo automobile. I read the newspaper article from your local paper from 1907 this morning, and it said that it was something of a risk for him to get into the car, but it was probably the wave of the future, who knew what would turn out.

Then, like a good politician, I read that when he was at Michigan State, at the campus, he learned that there were, in fact, two different car manufacturers competing with one another in Lansing, so he took the other one back. He took a Reo out and an Olds back.

That was a rare moment. Just think what happened from that moment to this one. Think about the century that that moment and this one spans—all but ten years of this century—and why it became the American Century, what a big part of it Michigan was. Building the great middle class, offering a haven to people from all over America, and to immigrants who would come here from other lands to work, to make their way. Building an industrial power that could prevail in two world wars and overcome a Great Depression. Building an ethical power that could live up to the meaning of its Constitution in the civil rights revolution, and expanding opportunities to young people to vote and to women to fully participate in the life of America. Just think what has happened in the 20th century.

When Roosevelt was here in 1907, it was a rare moment. We were moving on to the stage as a world power. Everyone recognized it. We had, by then, been a nation for more than 100 years, and everybody knew there was something unique about America—a free democracy, where people could vote and decide and make their judgments. And it was growing and being nourished. We were exceedingly prosperous by the standards of the time.

And Roosevelt knew that you had to make the most of peace and prosperity and leadership, and he did. And so did his successor, Woodrow Wilson. And because of them together and the work they did with like-minded members of both parties, we built an era that set the framework for America's leadership, growth and prosperity, and the explosion of people in the middle class, which became the hallmark of Michigan's greatness.

When I was a kid in Arkansas our per capita income was barely half the national average. We all knew if you could find your way up here and got a job, you could still make a good living. That all began at the beginning of this century. It is a very rare thing for a country to have peace and prosperity and the possibility of shaping its own future. Abraham Lincoln said in the Civil War, my policy is to have no policy; I'm controlled by events. If I said that, I would be ridiculed, rightly so. But he was controlled by events. He did have a policy—it was to keep the union together, and then to liberate us from the scourge of slavery. But he was controlled by events.

When the Depression came on and President Roosevelt called for an era of bold experimentation, he was controlled by events to some extent. He couldn't say, the major issue in America is the climate, or even education or anything else. He was controlled by events, and the war did that. And to some extent, the Cold War did that for us. When Sputnik went up and we got into the space race and wound up winning it, we were almost forced into it. Now we have peace and prosperity on the edge of an era of unimaginable possibility.

We just finished four years where our country, for the first time during one administration has produced 11.5 million jobs. Michigan, the unemployment rate has dropped, and the Governor said your welfare rolls are down 30 percent. You see this kind of progress, this energy, this movement, this possibility in America—dramatic, new advances in science and technology occurring. This is a rare time.

What happens to people, usually, when they are prosperous and unthreatened? Well, they usually get complacent, and then they normally find some reason to fall out with one another, usually over something incredibly petty, just in the nature of human events. And I come here to say to you today, we here in America, and you here especially in Michigan who have done so much for so long, we cannot afford to do that. We owe something better to our children. We have been given this unique opportunity—the same sort of opportunity we had when your predecessors were listening to Theodore Roosevelt here 90 years ago, except one on an even grander scale. And we have to make the most of it. We have to build America in the new century. And we also have to know that we have to do it as one America.

I am gratified that Governor Engler said what he did about the education program today. I am gratified that this bipartisan state legislature has given me such a warm welcome—for, we have to forge a new partnership for a new time.

While the era of big government is truly over—the federal government now has 285,000 fewer people working for it than it did on the day I took the Oath of Office—the era of big challenges for our nation is not over. And now, we know that national leadership can and must point the way, but the real responsibility is one we all share.

Especially, there are two areas I want to discuss today—educational excellence, high standards for all students; and welfare reform, breaking the cycle of dependency for everyone capable of independence in America—for these issues are at the core of what it means to prepare America for the 21st century, giving all Americans not only the opportunity, but the tools they need to make the most of their own lives in this new global knowledge economy.

The Governor referred to this in his remarks. When I gave the State of the Union address, I said that during the Cold War, because our national security was threatened by communism, politics stopped at the water's edge. Today, our national security depends upon our ability to develop the capacities of all of our people, so politics should stop at the schoolhouse door.

Between 1992 and 2000—think of this—89 percent of the new jobs created in this economy will require more than high school levels of literacy and math skills. But only half of the people entering the workforce are prepared for these high-paying jobs, even though about 80 percent of them are high school graduates. Our schools are still turning out millions of young people who simply are not equipped for the new world of work. That is why our number one priority must be to make our system of public education the best in the world, and you must believe we can do this.

A few years ago, almost eight years ago now, I had the honor of joining the other governors then serving with President Bush at the University of Virginia to write the national education goals. I still think they're pretty good goals. If you ask me what the consequences would be if they were implemented, we could say bluntly that it would mean that every 8-year-old would be able to read independently, every 12-year-old could now log on to the Internet, every 18-year-old could go to college, and every adult American could keep on learning for a lifetime. That is what I want to be the reality in this country.

In the State of the Union address, I laid out a 10-point plan, a Call to Action for American Education that describes the steps I believe we must all take—beginning with the youngest children, expanding and improving early childhood learning. The First Lady and I will be having a conference on early childhood learning and the brain to try to deal with these enormously significant new findings over the last couple of years, what we know about not only when children learn, but how they learn, and what happens if we don't do for them what we should do.

An enormous percentage of the capacity of the brain to absorb information to operate is developed in the first four years. I'll just give you one statistic: The average child that grows up in a family with two parents caring for that child, even if they both work, that have reasonably good educations and deal with the basic developmental tasks, will give that child 700,000 positive interactions in the first four years. The average child being raised by a single parent with low self-esteem and low self-confidence and no training in parenting will get 150,000 positive interactions and spend roughly seven times as much time before a television doing nothing, in the first four years. This has enormous consequences for the way we become. So we're going to talk about that.

We have to open the doors of college wider than ever. If 90 percent of the jobs require more than a high school education, and the 1990 census shows that the only group of younger workers whose incomes went up instead of down after you adjust for inflation were those that had at least two years of some kind of training after high school, we ought to make the 13th and 14th years of education just as universal by the year 2000 as a high school education is today.

I know that for years Michigan has been in the forefront of that, helping people to save for college. I have a proposal to provide tax credits for the cost of a typical community college for two years, and tax deductions up to \$10,000 a year for the tuition cost in any post-high school education, and an expanded IRA that can be used for the same purpose. We have to do this.

We also have to give more of our workers the ability to keep on learning for a lifetime. For four years, through a Democratic Congress and a Republican Congress, I have been given equal opportunity to fail to pass the G.I. Bill for American Workers. But it seems to me to be a simple idea. I just want to take the 70-odd programs that were developed with the best of intentions over the years, for this training program, that training program and the other one, put them in a big fund, and when a worker becomes eligible for help through unemployment or underemployment, send them a skills grant and let them take it to the local community college or the nearest education institution. They can find out for themselves what they need to do to improve their education. We don't need all that stuff in the middle of them, between them and the money. Send them the money, let them get the education. I hope you will help me pass that in the Congress. I think it is a good thing.

I want to help for the very first time through an innovative program to use federal funds to lower the interest rates on local bond issues to help schools with enormous building problems to repair their broken infrastructure, or build new facilities when they are doing their part. This is a very important thing.

We have the largest number of schoolchildren—as Secretary Riley never lets me forget—we have the largest number of schoolchildren in history in our schools this year, the first time we’ve ever had a bigger group than the Baby Boom generation. I have been to schools where the buildings were falling down. My wife was in a school this week where some of the floors were closed, and the kids were going to school on some floors and couldn’t go onto other floors or other rooms because they didn’t comply with the building codes. I have been into other schools with beautiful old school buildings surrounded by temporary facilities to hold the children.

So I think it’s an appropriate thing for us to do—not to try to take over this function, and not to try to substitute for people assuming responsibility. But, when there’s a terrible problem and people are doing their own work, if we can, by a prudent and limited investment, lower the cost of that so that more people can afford to do more construction and repair, I think we should.

I’m also strongly committed—the Vice President and I have been working on this very hard—to getting every classroom and every library in the country hooked up to the Internet by the year 2000. And I want to thank your Congresswoman, Debbie Stabenow, for the work that she’s done in supporting that.

Secretary Riley has awarded Michigan a grant of \$8.6 million for the technology literacy challenge to help your classrooms move into the 21st century, and I ask all of you to support that. There is enormous willingness in the private sector to help us get this done, and it can revolutionize—just think of it—if we can hook up every classroom and every library to the Internet by the year 2000, for the first time in the history of the country ever—ever—children in the poorest district, the richest districts, the middle-class districts—all of them will have access to the same learning in the same way in the same time.

And those of you who have children or know children who are already proficient in using the Internet, it’s a stunning thing. The other day, my daughter picked a topic to do a research paper on and she said, Dad, can you get me a couple of books on this out of the library? I came home with four books, and she had eight citations she had gotten off the Internet—eight articles on things. So my labors were one-third of her research project.

This is an incredible thing. If we make this available to all children, it will change in a breathtaking way what people can become, what our children can imagine themselves becoming. And I ask you to help us do that.

I thank you, Governor, for what you said about our support for greater discipline and safety and character education in the schools. I have proposed funding 1,000 new community school programs across the country to help our schools stay open after school, on the weekends and in the summertime, to try to give those children who need some positive place to go, some support, some help to stay out of trouble—a place to do that.

I have studied very carefully this problem of rising juvenile crime when overall crime has been going down dramatically in America. And the communities that are reversing that trend, that had juvenile crime going down, are the places that make sure that all those kids have something positive to say yes to, even as they’re being told to say no to the wrong things. So I want the schools to be able to do that in every community where it’s needed in the United States.

We have to make sure that we do everything we can to help our classroom teachers be the best they can be. For years, educators worked to establish nationally accepted credentials for excellence in teaching through the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, which is headquartered here in Detroit, Michigan.

Now, Michigan has the third highest number of board-certified master teachers in the country, and that’s a good thing. But there are still only a few hundred who have been board-certified. My new budget will enable 100,000 teachers all across America to seek certification as master teachers. And our goal should be to have one certified master teacher in every single school in America. That will make more master teachers we need for those schools, and I hope we can do it.

As has already been said today, I do believe that we need a strong system of public education that gives parents and communities more freedom and flexibility. I think we should work together to give parents more choices for what public schools their children attend all across America. I think we should help teachers, parents, museums and others to create new public charter schools.

I have proposed to double the budget of the program so that we can increase by tenfold the number of charter schools we have by the year 2000, and I think it’s important to emphasize what we want. We want high standards, schools that are open to all children regardless of their backgrounds. We want an example of accountability which will then spread to all other public schools. But we want to say to them, you can stay open only as long as you do a good job. That’s what the charter means; that’s what a charter is.

Ultimately, what we want to do is to prove that we have a model here that can be used everywhere else. It is simply not true that if you have a few public schools that all the rest of them can’t be good; if some of them are good that they all can’t be good. That is not true. It is not true that because it’s a public institution we can’t achieve excellence everywhere. If that were true, we’d have some good Army units and some bad Army units. And we’d be afraid to go to war and you wouldn’t sleep well at night. Isn’t that right?

So you do not have to accept the feeling that you know this wonderful principal, and if only everybody else could be that way. That is simply not true. Leadership can be taught, leadership can be trained, and 90 percent of the children in this country plus—99 percent of them—can learn what they need to know to succeed and triumph in the modern world. They can do it and we have to do it.

Now that you've clapped, I will say they are capable of it, but they don't know it today. Let's face the fact. The truth is that 40 percent of the 4th-graders in this country still cannot read a book on their own. In Germany or Singapore, students learn 15 to 20 math subjects in depth every year. Typically in the United States, we learn over 30 or 35 every year in a superficial way. When we have these comparative tests, they normally win—especially since they stay in school longer than we do, day-in and day-out, year-in and year-out.

But without these skills, children will not be able to develop the capacity to think and to reason and to analyze complex problems. All these skills will be essential to succeeding in the world of the 21st century in jobs that have not been invented or even imagined yet.

Now, what do we have to have? We have got to have high standards, high expectations, and high levels of accountability. That is why I have challenged our nation to meet these national standards in the basics—not federal government standards, but national standards, representing what every child, wherever he or she lives, however poor, rich, or middle class he or she is, must know to do well in the world of the 21st century. And I think we should begin by having every state test every 4th-grader in reading and every 8th-grader in math by 1999 to make sure these basic standards are met.

We already have widely accepted rigorous standards in both reading and math, and widely used tests that are based on these standards. They're just not given to everyone or designed to be given to everyone. Michigan and more than 40 other states have participated in a test called the National Assessment of Education Progress. The Education Committee members in the audience call it the NAEP test. It measures a state's overall performance against a high national standard of excellence.

Just last week we released the annual assessment of math performance and it shows, across the country, that our 4th, 8th, and 12th-graders are doing better. And as the Governor said, the Michigan score is among the most improved in the nation.

Tens of thousands of students across the country have also taken the Third International Math and Science Survey, a test that reflects world-class standards our children must meet in math and science. The headquarters for that test is just down the road at Michigan State. And I want to thank Dr. William Schmidt at Michigan State for his leadership of this important study. I think he's here with us today. Thank you very much.

If you saw the State of the Union address, you know there is a group of children in northern Illinois that took this test in 20 school districts north of Chicago, and they finished tied for first in science and tied for second in math. Very impressive.

Unfortunately, these tests also don't provide scores for individuals, they simply measure how an entire area or group of people are doing. What we need are exams that will literally measure the performance of each and every student in each and every school. That way, parents and teachers will know how every child is doing compared to other students in other schools, other states, and other countries. And most important of all, they will know how the child is doing compared to what you need to know to go forward.

And I want to make it clear what the difference is. It doesn't matter if your child makes the highest grade in the class if nobody gets over the standards bar. Conversely, in this test it doesn't matter if your child makes the lowest grade in the class if everybody gets over the standards bar. That's the difference. We have a lot of these standardized tests. We need tests that test to the standards, that say whether you crossed the threshold of what you must know to do well in the world of tomorrow.

That's why I'm presenting a plan to help the states meet and measure these standards. Over the next two years, the Department of Education will support the development of new tests for the 4th grade reading and the 8th grade math, to show how every student measures up to high and widely accepted standards. They'll be developed by independent experts in consultation with leading math and reading teachers. The federal government will not require them, but these tests will be made available to every state that chooses to administer them. That is the significance of the announcement that the Governor made. I want to create a climate in which no one can say no; in which it's voluntary but you are ashamed if you don't give your kids the chance to do this.

Together, we are saying this. This is not a partisan issue. There is no Democratic or Republican way to use. There is no Maryland or Michigan way to learn. Reading is reading, math is math. No school board or state legislature can rewrite the rules of algebra in Alaska to make them different than they are in Arkansas. It cannot be done. Every state must put politics aside, work in a bipartisan fashion, test our children in the same rigorous way. Politics should stop at the schoolhouse door.

This will not be easy. Some of our children won't do very well at first. We don't need to make them feel like failures, we need to make them understand we're doing this so we can know how to measure their success. If they don't do very well at first, it's probably more our fault than theirs. And a lot of it, I will say again, is because when we see people in difficult circumstances, sometimes out of the goodness of our heart, we exercise our compassion by expecting less of them. And we are selling their future right down the drain every time we do it.

I can tell you, over the last several years—you know, I was a governor a long time—I served with Governor Engler, I served with Governor Blanchard, I served with Governor Milliken. I have been all over this country to schools. I have seen schools in areas with high murder rates, where it was unsafe to get in the school, where there were no guns, no

knives, no dope, no dropout, and test scores were above the state average. I could go through example after example after example. And every time I see one, I get more hopeful and more angry. Because if you can have one good school where the kids are learning against all the odds and all the obstacles, then you know when you leave that school there is no excuse for that not happening everywhere. This will help that happen everywhere.

Let me make a comment now about one other part of this education program that I think is very important, and that's our America Reads program. We announced it here in Michigan last August in Wyandotte, when I was there on my train trip. And I did it with the help of two elementary school students, Justin Whitney and Elizabeth Schweyn. We announced the America Reads challenge, we set a goal mobilizing a million volunteer tutors to help every 8-year-old learn to read independently. We're going to use 11,000 of our AmeriCorps volunteers to mobilize and train the army, we're going to get at least 100,000 college students to help, and I might say in the last budget we added 200,000 more work-study slots, and there's another 100,000 in this budget, so we'll go to a million kids on work-study, and I want 100,000 of that extra 300,000 to help teach our children to read. And I'm pleased that 16 Michigan college presidents have already pledged to provide their fair share of those students.

I don't know if you remember what we did that hot August day, but Elizabeth and Justin read "The Little Engine That Could" to me, and I said I want every child to be able to do this and say, here's this book and I can read this all by myself.

Today, Elizabeth and Justin are here with us and I would like to ask them to stand up. Thank you. I will do what I can to help our young people be ready to be tested. I am asking the Department of Education and the National Science Foundation to identify and coordinate resources throughout the federal government and through the nonprofit sector that can be used to help students meet the math standards. I want to help young people learn more science as well and to make the government a resource.

The federal government has some of the world's most esteemed laboratories and research institutions. We ought to make sure every high school math and science teacher has easy access to the work of these laboratories and the experts there through the Internet, and we're going to do our best to set up that kind of system and make it available to all of your teachers so they can in turn make it available to your students.

We can do this. We can also meet the challenge of welfare reform, and I can't leave here without talking to you about it for a couple of minutes, because I want to make it clear where we are now, and this is something else we've got to do together. In the last four years, the welfare rolls went down by 2.5 million people, the largest drop in the history of the country. Now, how did that happen? And Michigan had a reduction of 30 percent above the national average. How did that happen?

We know that about half the drop was the result of the economy producing 11.5 million jobs. We know about 30 percent to a third of it was the result of the fact that 43 of our states had vigorous welfare experiments, and the ones that were statewide, like yours, had better results. We know that there were some resulting from the fact that we increased child support collections, working together to get really tough. Within the states and across lines, child support collections went up by 50 percent in the last four years, and we know that helped some people to get off welfare.

Now we have a new law, and the new law says there should be time limits for how long the person could be on welfare; there should be time limits for how long a person could be on welfare consecutively—two years before getting a job. There are tough work requirements. We leave the medical aid and food aid to poor children and their families in place. We increase the aid going into child care at the federal level, and then we give the states the flexibility to decide how to design the program to move people from welfare to work and support them at an appropriate level in the meantime.

Now, that's what it does. I signed the bill and I thought it was the right thing to do. But I also want you to know that we have to do something else—we have to make it work. That law was not the end of welfare reform, it was the beginning. It gave this problem to you. You remember what that old country musician, Chet Atkins, said—'you got to be careful what you ask for in this old life, you might get it.' And so now you have it.

Now, we have been telling poor people they have to be more responsible; if you can work, you have to work; you've got to succeed at home as parents and in the work force. Now we have a responsibility. You're telling people they've got to go to work; we've got to make sure there's a job there for them if they go to work.

Let me say precisely what this means, because I want to be precise. I think it's very important that since the states have responsibility, every state needs to know exactly how many jobs we have to create in Michigan only for people to move from welfare to work, how many jobs in Arkansas, how many jobs in Arizona, how many jobs? And how many jobs would that mean we'd have to do by county, and how are we going to do this?

Basically, if you look at the law's requirements and the fact that it's phased in, the requirement for states to put a certain number of people to work, you will have to—as a nation, we will have to create about another million—a little bit less, maybe 900,000 jobs for welfare recipients only, and move approximately another 2.5 million people off welfare in the next four years to meet the requirements of the law.

Now, in the last four years, we did it with 43 of the 50 states having welfare reform experiments, but only some of them were statewide. But we also had 11.5 million jobs. We never had that many before. Maybe we'll do it again. I'd like that a lot, and I'll work on it hard. But no one can predict with any certainty what will happen.

So you must imagine, how will we make it more—and we don't have the money to have big public service employment. I do have some money in my budget to give to the urban areas especially and to isolated rural areas with high impact unemployment to help them do work that needs to be done anyway in their cities. But that won't get the job done. Most of this will have to be done by private employers.

Our plan will give tax credits of up to 50 percent of the salary, up to \$10,000 a year, for people that hire people right off the welfare roll and do not replace someone else, they hire them for a real new job.

It will give other incentives for businesses to hire people off welfare, and incentives for job placement firms and for states to create more jobs for welfare recipients. You'll get more money if you create more jobs for them. And if your past is any indication, you'll be one of those that will be claiming the incentives—and that's a good thing. And it does provide more money for training and for child care; and in our budget for the new transportation bill, more money for transportation, because that's a big issue in a lot of places for moving people from welfare to work.

But you are going to have to get help. And the private employer community and the community nonprofits community and the religious community, they're all going to have to help. You also have the option to do something else—you can, totally at your own discretion, let people take some or all of the welfare check and you can give it to the employer as an employment and training subsidy. And some states are going to have to do that because their training dollars are inadequate so they're going to have to depend on on-the-job training. Missouri is doing this now in the Kansas City area, Florida has adopted a version of it, a number of other states have. I urge you to look at that. I think it's a legitimate thing to give a private employer, for a limited period of time, a subsidy for training and for hiring people who are otherwise very hard to hire.

That's another point I want to make. Keep in mind, about half the welfare caseload gets off on their own; it's the other half that we have to liberate from permanent dependency and it's harder for them to get into the workforce and harder for them to stay and harder for them to learn the basic things. And so we're going to have to go out to our employers and say, hey, we want to help you. Or in the case of the churches and the nonprofits, the tax credit is not worth anything to them because they don't pay taxes anyway. But the wage subsidy would be worth something to them to get them to enlist.

So, you know, I have really collected—how many employers are there in America with more than 100 employees? How many nonprofits are there? How many religious institutions are there with more than 100 members in the congregation, or more than 200 members? Every state needs this information. Every community needs this information and those folks need to be hit up to do their part—especially if you ever heard anybody in your local neighborhood cussing the welfare system who works people. Go back and say, okay, we got rid of it, now what are you going to do? We need your help.

The last thing I wanted to say is—and this may be a moderate problem in Michigan, will be a huge problem in some states—I signed the welfare reform bill, but I said when I signed it I thought we made a mistake to eliminate all aid to legal immigrants. Now, when an immigrant comes to America, they say—they have to promise that they won't try to get on welfare and they won't take any public money. That is true. But it's also true it takes five years to become a citizen, meanwhile you work and you pay taxes. And in a country like ours that lets in a significant number of immigrants—in your largest county now, you have people from over 140 different racial and ethnic groups—bad things are going to happen to good people just when they show up every day. There will be car wrecks, there will be serious illnesses, there will be crime victims, and I personally think it's wrong to either dump that problem on the door of the state legislature or, in the alternative, just tell them to do without.

And this is a great nation of immigrants. I think this is unworthy of us and I'm going to try to change it, and I hope that you will support that. It would be good for you if you do.

Thank you for making me feel so welcome today. Let me say again, you ought to go back and get the local paper and read the article about Teddy Roosevelt. You ought to think about what happened in the intervening 90 years. You ought to realize that we have an even greater opportunity now, and with it a greater responsibility to forge a new partnership to deal with the new possibilities of this bright new era. And if we seize this responsibility of ours, there is no telling what can happen—good and wonderful and positive for America.

So it is our duty, but it is our good fortune. You ought to go home tonight and thank God that you got a chance to serve the public at this moment in time. It is a rare time. And you ought to wake up tomorrow determined to do it with greater energy and enthusiasm and dedication than ever before.

Thank you and God bless you."

The President of the United States, the Governor and their escorts withdrew.

The business of the Joint Convention having been completed, the House and Senate Members and State Officers were excused; the Board of Education members, the Justices of the Supreme Court and the Officers of the Court of Appeals withdrew.

Rep. Gagliardi moved that the Joint Convention adjourn.
The motion prevailed, the time being 12:25 o'clock p.m.

The Lt. Governor retired.

Reports of Select Committees

Joint Committee on Administrative Rules

Certificates of Approval

Date: March 5, 1997
Subject: Trans. No. 97-07

I hereby certify that the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules approved the **rescission** of the administrative rules from the Consumer and Industry Services Department, Insurance Bureau, pertaining to Electronic Data Processing Equipment Definition, dated May 22, 1996.

Date: March 5, 1997
Subject: Trans. No. 97-08

I hereby certify that the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules approved the **rescission** of the administrative rules from the Consumer and Industry Services Department, Insurance Bureau, pertaining to General Rules, dated May 22, 1996.

Date: March 5, 1997
Subject: Trans. No. 97-10

I hereby certify that the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules approved the **rescission** of the administrative rules from the Consumer and Industry Services Department, Insurance Bureau, pertaining Marine, Inland Marine, and Transportation Coverages, dated May 22, 1996.

Date: March 5, 1997
Subject: Trans. No. 97-11

I hereby certify that the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules approved the **rescission** of the administrative rules from the Consumer and Industry Services Department, Insurance Bureau, pertaining to Nonprofit Hospital Service Corporation Contract, dated May 22, 1996.

Date: March 5, 1997
Subject: Trans. No. 97-12

I hereby certify that the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules approved the **rescission** of the administrative rules from the Consumer and Industry Services Department, Insurance Bureau, pertaining to Written Examination for Health and Accident Agents, dated May 22, 1996.

Date: March 5, 1997
Subject: Trans. No. 97-15

I hereby certify that the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules approved the administrative rules from the Consumer and Industry Services Department, Insurance Bureau, pertaining to General Rules, dated May 22, 1996.

Date: March 5, 1997
Subject: Trans. No. 97-16

I hereby certify that the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules approved the administrative rules from the Consumer and Industry Services Department, Insurance Bureau, pertaining to Prelicensure Education, dated August 21, 1996.

March 5, 1997

John R. Schoonmaker, Regulatory Affairs Officer
Insurance Bureau
Department of Consumer and Industry Services
Lansing, Michigan
Dear Mr. Schoonmaker:

Pursuant to the authority granted in subsection (3) of section 45 of the Administrative Procedures Act, being 24.245 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Committee by majority vote extended the time for consideration of Trans. No. 97-06, submitted by the Department of Consumer and Industry Services, Insurance Bureau, pertaining to Accident and Sickness Insurance Advertising (Rescission), to May 13, 1997.

March 5, 1997

Pursuant to the authority granted in subsection (3) of section 45 of the Administrative Procedures Act, being 24.245 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Committee by majority vote extended the time for consideration of Trans. No. 97-09, submitted by the Department of Consumer and Industry Services, Insurance Bureau, pertaining to Life Insurance Contracts on Variable Basis (Rescission), to May 13, 1997.

March 5, 1997

Pursuant to the authority granted in subsection (3) of section 45 of the Administrative Procedures Act, being 24.245 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Committee by majority vote extended the time for consideration of Trans. No. 97-13, submitted by the Department of Consumer and Industry Services, Insurance Bureau, pertaining to Accident and Sickness Insurance Advertising, to May 13, 1997.

March 5, 1997

Pursuant to the authority granted in subsection (3) of section 45 of the Administrative Procedures Act, being 24.245 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Committee by majority vote extended the time for consideration of Trans. No. 97-14, submitted by the Department of Consumer and Industry Services, Insurance Bureau, pertaining to Advertisement of Life Insurance and Annuities, to May 13, 1997.

Sincerely,
Rep. Candice A. Curtis
Chair

Reports of Standing Committees

The Committee on Transportation, by Rep. Leland, Chair, reported

House Bill No. 4356, entitled

A bill to amend 1927 PA 150, entitled "An act to prescribe a privilege tax for the use of the public highways by owners and drivers of motor vehicles by imposing a specific tax upon the sale or use, within the state of Michigan, of motor fuel; to prescribe the manner and the time of paying this tax and the duties of officials and others respecting the payment and collection of this tax; to provide for the licensing of wholesale distributors, certain retail dealers, exporters, and suppliers as defined in this act; to fix a time when this tax and interest and penalties thereon become a lien upon the property of persons, firms, partnerships, associations, or corporations, subject to the payment of this tax; to provide for the enforcement of this lien; to permit the inspection and testing of petroleum products; to provide for certain exemptions and refunds and for the disposition of the proceeds of this tax; and to prescribe penalties for the violation of this act," by amending section 12 (MCL 207.112), as amended by 1996 PA 56.

The committee recommended that the bill be referred to the Committee on Tax Policy.

Favorable Roll Call

HB 4356 To Report Out:

Yeas: Reps. Leland, Schermesser, Baade, Brown, Curtis, Mans, Scott, Wojno, London, Byl, Galloway, Gernaat, Green, Middleton,

Nays: None.

The recommendation was concurred in and the bill was referred to the Committee on Tax Policy.

The Committee on Transportation, by Rep. Leland, Chair, reported

House Resolution No. 18.

A resolution to memorialize the Congress of the United States to reauthorize the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act.

(For text of resolution, see House Journal No. 15, p. 233.)

With the recommendation that the resolution be adopted.

The Speaker announced that under Rule 77 the resolution would lie over one day.

Favorable Roll Call

HR 18 To Report Out:

Yeas: Reps. Leland, Schermesser, Baade, Brown, Curtis, Mans, Scott, Wojno, London, Byl, Galloway, Gernaat, Green, Middleton,

Nays: None.

The Committee on Transportation, by Rep. Leland, Chair, reported

House Concurrent Resolution No. 16.

A concurrent resolution to memorialize the Congress of the United States to reauthorize the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act.

(For text of resolution, see House Journal No. 15, p. 234.)

With the recommendation that the concurrent resolution be adopted.

The Speaker announced that under Rule 77 the concurrent resolution would lie over one day.

Favorable Roll Call

HCR 16 To Report Out:

Yeas: Reps. Leland, Schermesser, Baade, Brown, Curtis, Mans, Scott, Wojno, London, Byl, Galloway, Gernaat, Green, Middleton,

Nays: None.

COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE REPORT

The following report, submitted by Rep. Leland, Chair of the Committee on Transportation, was received and read:
Meeting held on: Wednesday, March 5, 1997, at 4:06 p.m.,

Present: Reps. Leland, Schermesser, Baade, Brown, Curtis, Mans, Scott, Wojno, London, Byl, Galloway, Gernaat, Green, Middleton,

Absent: Reps. Olshove, Schauer, Birkholz,

Excused: Reps. Olshove, Schauer, Birkholz.

Messages from the Senate

Senate Bill No. 146, entitled

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled "The revised school code," by amending sections 502, 504, 512, and 514 (MCL 380.502, 380.504, 380.512, and 380.514), sections 502 and 512 as amended by 1995 PA 289 and section 504 as amended and section 514 as added by 1994 PA 416; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

The Senate has passed the bill.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Education.

Announcement by the Clerk of Printing and Enrollment

The Clerk announced that the following bills had been printed and placed upon the files of the members, Monday, March 3:

Senate Bill Nos.	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228
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The Clerk announced that the following bills had been printed and placed upon the files of the members, Tuesday, March 4:

Senate Bill Nos.	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242
	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256
	257	258	259	260	263									

Introduction of Bills

Rep. Profit introduced

House Bill No. 4451, entitled

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled "Michigan vehicle code," by amending sections 323, 323a, and 323c (MCL 257.323, 257.323a, and 257.323c), section 323 as amended by 1994 PA 449, section 323a as amended by 1991 PA 99, and section 323c as amended by 1991 PA 100.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Reps. Prusi, Callahan, Anthony, Gire, Hanley, Agee, Kelly, Tesanovich, Leland, Varga, Scott and Parks introduced
House Bill No. 4452, entitled

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," by amending sections 46503, 46506, 46507, and 46508 (MCL 324.46503, 324.46506, 324.46507, and 324.46508), as added by 1995 PA 57.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Conservation, Environment and Recreation.

Reps. Kaza, Kukuk, Lowe, Martinez, Voorhees, Cropsey, Jaye and Whyman introduced
House Bill No. 4453, entitled

A bill to amend 1978 PA 472, entitled "An act to regulate political activity; to regulate lobbyists, lobbyist agents, and lobbying activities; to require registration of lobbyists and lobbyist agents; to require the filing of reports; to prescribe the powers and duties of the department of state; to prescribe penalties; and to repeal certain acts and parts of acts," by amending section 6a (MCL 4.416a), as added by 1994 PA 383.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on House Oversight and Ethics.

Rep. Varga introduced

House Bill No. 4454, entitled

A bill to create a commission for the control of the alcoholic beverage traffic within this state, and to prescribe its powers, duties, and limitations; to provide for powers and duties for certain state departments and agencies; to impose certain taxes for certain purposes; to provide for the control of the alcoholic liquor traffic within this state and to provide for the power to establish state liquor stores; to provide for the care and treatment of alcoholics; to provide for the incorporation of farmer cooperative wineries and the granting of certain rights and privileges to those cooperatives; to provide for the licensing and taxation of activities regulated under this act and the disposition of the money received under this act; to prescribe liability for retail licensees under certain circumstances and to require security for that liability; to provide procedures, defenses, and remedies regarding violations of this act; to provide for the enforcement and to prescribe penalties for violations of this act; to provide for allocation of certain funds for certain purposes; to provide for the confiscation and disposition of property seized under this act; to provide referenda under certain circumstances; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Regulatory Affairs.

Reps. Hammerstrom and Llewellyn introduced

House Bill No. 4455, entitled

A bill to amend 1976 PA 453, entitled "Elliott-Larsen civil rights act," by amending sections 302 and 402 (MCL 37.2302 and 37.2402), section 402 as amended by 1993 PA 216.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Constitutional and Civil Rights.

Reps. Prusi, Callahan, Anthony, Gire, Hanley, Agee, Kelly, Leland, McManus, Tesanovich, Varga, Scott and Parks introduced

House Bill No. 4456, entitled

A bill to amend 1953 PA 232, entitled "An act to revise, consolidate, and codify the laws relating to probationers and probation officers, to pardons, reprieves, commutations, and paroles, to the administration of correctional institutions, correctional farms, and probation recovery camps, to prisoner labor and correctional industries, and to the supervision and inspection of local jails and houses of correction; to provide for the siting of correctional facilities; to create a state department of corrections, and to prescribe its powers and duties; to provide for the transfer to and vesting in said department of powers and duties vested by law in certain other state boards, commissions, and officers, and to abolish certain boards, commissions, and offices the powers and duties of which are transferred by this act; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain other state departments and agencies; to provide for the creation of a local lockup advisory board; to prescribe penalties for the violation of the provisions of this act; to make certain appropriations; to repeal certain parts of this act on specific dates; and to repeal all acts and parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act," (MCL 791.201 to 791.283) by adding section 68.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Corrections.

Reps. McManus, Goschka, McBryde, Perricone, Green, Cropsey, Voorhees, Rocca, Jaye, Law, Horton, Gernaat, Dalman, Rhead, Llewellyn and Walberg introduced

House Bill No. 4457, entitled

A bill to amend 1976 PA 453, entitled "Elliott-Larsen civil rights act," by amending the title and section 210 (MCL 37.2210), the title as amended by 1992 PA 258, and by adding section 210a.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Constitutional and Civil Rights.

Reps. McManus, Wallace, Goschka, McBryde, Jelinek, Jaye, Prusi, Tesanovich, Hammerstrom, Green and Jansen introduced

House Bill No. 4458, entitled

A bill to amend 1846 RS 171, entitled "Of county jails and the regulation thereof," (MCL 801.1 to 801.27) by adding section 7a.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Corrections.

Reps. McManus, Goschka, McBryde, Perricone, Green, Cropsey, Voorhees, Rocca, Jaye, Law, Horton, Gernaat, Dalman, Whyman, Rhead, Llewellyn and Walberg introduced

House Bill No. 4459, entitled

A bill to amend 1984 PA 431, entitled "The management and budget act," by amending section 261 (MCL 18.1261), as amended by 1993 PA 46.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Constitutional and Civil Rights.

Reps. McManus, Goschka, Cropsey, Law, Green, Godchaux, Gernaat, Middleton, Hammerstrom, Jansen, London, Baade, Mans, Olshove, Martinez, Leland, Schermesser and Jellema introduced

House Bill No. 4460, entitled

A bill to amend 1949 PA 300, entitled "Michigan vehicle code," by amending section 307 (MCL 257.307), as amended by 1996 PA 205.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Transportation.

Reps. Martinez, Wallace, Goschka, Cherry, Harder, Baird, Hanley and Scott introduced

House Bill No. 4461, entitled

A bill to amend 1936 (Ex Sess) PA 1, entitled "Michigan employment security act," by amending sections 11 and 17 (MCL 421.11 and 421.17), section 11 as amended by 1995 PA 25 and section 17 as amended by 1994 PA 162.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Labor and Occupational Safety.

Reps. Callahan, Freeman, Murphy, Schermesser and Hale introduced

House Bill No. 4462, entitled

A bill to amend 1939 PA 176, entitled "An act to create a commission relative to labor disputes, and to prescribe its powers and duties; to provide for the mediation and arbitration of labor disputes, and the holding of elections thereon; to regulate the conduct of parties to labor disputes and to require the parties to follow certain procedures; to regulate and limit the right to strike and picket; to protect the rights and privileges of employees, including the right to organize and engage in lawful concerted activities; to protect the rights and privileges of employers; to make certain acts unlawful; and to prescribe means of enforcement and penalties for violations of this act," by amending section 22 (MCL 423.22).

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Labor and Occupational Safety.

Rep. Willard introduced

House Bill No. 4463, entitled

A bill to amend 1967 PA 281, entitled "Income tax act of 1967," (MCL 206.1 to 206.532) by adding section 266.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs.

Reps. Jelinek, Brackenridge, LeTarte, Cropsey, Schauer, Kilpatrick, Cassis, Agee and Bogardus introduced

House Bill No. 4464, entitled

A bill to amend 1976 PA 451, entitled "The revised school code," by amending section 861 (MCL 380.861) and by adding section 861a.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Education.

Reps. Jellema, Middaugh, Middleton, DeVuyst, LaForge, Anthony, Hammerstrom, Martinez, Brater, Byl, McBryde, Voorhees, Ciaramitaro, Baade, Bodem, Raczkowski, Birkholz, Sikkema, Walberg, Jansen, Dalman, Wetters, McNutt, London, Fitzgerald, Kelly, McManus and Perricone introduced

House Bill No. 4465, entitled

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," (MCL 324.101 to 324.90106) by adding part 54.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Conservation, Environment and Recreation.

Reps. Jellema, Middaugh, Middleton, DeVuyst, LaForge, Anthony, Hammerstrom, Martinez, Brater, Byl, McBryde, Voorhees, Ciaramitaro, Baade, Bodem, Raczkowski, Birkholz, Sikkema, Walberg, Jansen, Dalman, Wetters, McNutt, London, Fitzgerald, Kelly, McManus and Perricone introduced

House Bill No. 4466, entitled

A bill to amend 1985 PA 227, entitled "Shared credit rating act," by amending the title and sections 1, 3, 7, 8, 13, 25, and 27 (MCL 141.1051, 141.1053, 141.1057, 141.1058, 141.1063, 141.1075, and 141.1077), the title and sections 3, 8, 13, and 27 as amended by 1996 PA 241, section 7 as amended by 1996 PA 391, and section 25 as amended by 1988 PA 316, and by adding section 16b.

The bill was read a first time by its title and referred to the Committee on Conservation, Environment and Recreation.

By unanimous consent the House returned to the order of

Motions and Resolutions

Reps. Horton, McManus, Whyman, London, Green, Lowe, Walberg, Cropsey, Jansen, Rocca, Kukuk, Nye, Dalman, Goschka, McBryde, Owen, Baade, Olshove, Jellema, Jaye, Ciaramitaro, Jelinek, Hammerstrom, Bodem, Raczkowski, Johnson, Law, Gernaat, Rhead, Richner, Geiger, DeVuyst, Voorhees, Perricone and Llewellyn offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 24.

A resolution to memorialize the President and the Congress of the United States to ban partial birth abortions.

Whereas, During the 104th Congress, legislation was passed to prohibit partial birth abortions. This measure was vetoed by the President. In statements made surrounding this legislation and the veto, considerable weight was given to information that said that partial birth abortions were extremely rare and were performed most often as a life-saving measure for the mother; and

Whereas, Recently, one of the people who was a strong voice against the ban on partial birth abortions has admitted that he lied about the numbers and nature of these late-term abortions. The Executive Director of the National Coalition of Abortion Providers now acknowledges that the frequency of this procedure is far higher than he testified. This prominent spokesperson for abortion rights now indicates that partial birth abortions are most often performed in cases where the mothers are not facing life-threatening conditions and the babies are not known to have serious birth defects; and

Whereas, The news of the deception surrounding the partial birth abortion action has caused many to call for a renewal of efforts to ban this horrendous practice; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the President and the Congress of the United States to ban partial birth abortions; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Office of the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

The resolution was referred to the Committee on House Oversight and Ethics.

Reps. Horton, McManus, London, Whyman, Green, Lowe, Walberg, Cropsey, Jansen, Rocca, Kukuk, Nye, Dalman, Goschka, McBryde, Olshove, Baade, Jaye, Owen, Ciaramitaro, Jellema, Byl, Jelinek, Cassis, Hammerstrom, Bodem, Raczkowski, Johnson, Law, Gernaat, Rhead, Richner, Geiger, DeVuyst, Voorhees, Perricone and Llewellyn offered the following concurrent resolution:

House Concurrent Resolution No. 20.

A concurrent resolution to memorialize the President and the Congress of the United States to ban partial birth abortions.

Whereas, During the 104th Congress, legislation was passed to prohibit partial birth abortions. This measure was vetoed by the President. In statements made surrounding this legislation and the veto, considerable weight was given to information that said that partial birth abortions were extremely rare and were performed most often as a life-saving measure for the mother; and

Whereas, Recently, one of the people who was a strong voice against the ban on partial birth abortions has admitted that he lied about the numbers and nature of these late-term abortions. The Executive Director of the National Coalition of Abortion Providers now acknowledges that the frequency of this procedure is far higher than he testified. This prominent spokesperson for abortion rights now indicates that partial birth abortions are most often performed in cases where the mothers are not facing life-threatening conditions and the babies are not known to have serious birth defects; and

Whereas, The news of the deception surrounding the partial birth abortion action has caused many to call for a renewal of efforts to ban this horrendous practice; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That we memorialize the President and the Congress of the United States to ban partial birth abortions; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Office of the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

The concurrent resolution was referred to the Committee on House Oversight and Ethics.

Rep. Gagliardi moved that the House adjourn.
The motion prevailed, the time being 3:35 p.m.

The Speaker Pro Tempore declared the House adjourned until Tuesday, March 11, at 2:00 p.m.

MARY KAY SCULLION
Clerk of the House of Representatives.