

Reps. Lemmons, III, Lemmons, Jr., Farrah, Cushingberry, Gillard, Lipsey, Miller and Polidori offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 214.

A resolution expressing opposition to a recent *Detroit News* editor's opinion piece labeling all Palestinians as terrorists.

Whereas, The February 5, 2006, edition of the *Detroit News* included a piece written by Nolan Finley, the paper's editorial page editor, that labels all Palestinians as terrorists; and

Whereas, Mr. Finley's article states that the "Palestinians' lust for Jewish blood is stronger than their desire for peace" and makes other similar statements that reflect a misguided and malicious view of all Palestinians; and

Whereas, Mr. Finley categorically states, "Terrorism is the history of the Palestinian people," with no regard for their rightful place in history dating back to the Old Testament; and

Whereas, The column has caused serious concern and considerable fear within the metro Detroit and Michigan Arab community that the blanket statements will generate a backlash of violence aimed at Arabs in general and Palestinians in particular in their homes, workplaces, schools, churches, and mosques; and

Whereas, The piece did not even make a perfunctory effort to achieve balance; and

Whereas, The blanket condemnation of Palestinians does nothing to bring reason or even tolerance to an admittedly difficult global situation. Instead, this hate-filled article only serves to fan the flames of intolerance and bigotry and further threaten hopes for peace and stability; and

Whereas, A state that prides itself on the diversity of its people should speak out against statements that foster hatred and intolerance; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we express our opposition to the February 5, 2006, column written by Nolan Finley in the *Detroit News* that labeled Palestinians as terrorists and urge that the *Detroit News* and Mr. Finley apologize to Michigan's citizens for attempting to create wedges of hate among them by singling out one ethnicity for malicious statements; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the *Detroit News*, Mr. Finley, and other media outlets throughout Michigan.