

Reps. Young, Haugh, Liss, Lori, Durhal, Robert Jones, Nathan, Neumann and Valentine offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 177.

A resolution to call for the creation of a youth administration to represent the voices of young people in Michigan in the lawmaking process.

Whereas, Young people have a far higher long-term stake in the decisions made in Lansing and Washington than the older generations. The impact of policies put in place today will touch their families, careers, health, and finances to a much greater extent than those of their parents and grandparents. In spite of this, young people are, in many ways, farther removed from lawmaking and government than they have been at other times in the past; and

Whereas, A concept that would be well worth pursuing is the establishment of a youth administration. A coordinated program to include all levels of government would include youth advisory councils to city councils and county boards. Issues of concern could be communicated to a state youth entity to ensure that the voices of our leaders of tomorrow are heard and have an appropriate influence as decisions are made. Regular and formal access to the opinions and insights of involved young people would likely be helpful to elected officials as well, especially as they deal with matters that are especially pertinent to our youth; and

Whereas, A program to facilitate the involvement of young people in the workings of government could hold many benefits for our state. Clearly, fostering a sense of civic responsibility and providing a vehicle for meaningful participation among our young citizens can only strengthen our state; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we call for the creation of a youth administration to represent the voices of young people in Michigan in the lawmaking process; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Office of the Governor.