

Senators Kuipers, McManus, Gilbert, Van Woerkom, Kahn, Cropsey, Brown, George, Allen, Gleason, Pappageorge, Jansen, Hardiman, Patterson, Olshove, Cherry, Richardville, Birkholz, Cassis, Whitmer and Basham offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution No. 4.**

A resolution recognizing January 25-31, 2009, as Catholic Schools Week in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, There are 67,457 students attending 269 Catholic elementary and high schools throughout our great state; and

Whereas, Catholic schools provide young people with a strong foundation of values and academic skills needed to become responsible citizens of our state and nation; and

Whereas, The Catholic Church sees the parents as the primary educators and that parental supervision and involvement play a major role in the education of students; and

Whereas, Catholic schools believe that teaching morals and values is essential to the complete education of the student since every member of society continually makes moral decisions; and

Whereas, Catholic schools educate many students who are non-Catholic; and

Whereas, Based upon Michigan's minimum public school foundation allowance of \$7,316, the Catholic schools of our state save taxpayers in excess of \$493,515,412 annually; and

Whereas, Catholic educators are dedicated to producing academically-strong students who also commit themselves to service; and

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

Whereas, January 25-31, 2009, has been designated as Catholic Schools Week, with the theme "Catholic Schools Celebrate Service," as denoted by the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body recognize January 25-31, 2009, as Catholic Schools Week in the state of Michigan; and be it further

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