

Senator Bishop offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution No. 199.**

A resolution of tribute for the Honorable Wayne Kuipers.

Whereas, It is with great respect for his distinguished service to the 30th Senate District and the entire state of Michigan that we commend and thank Wayne Kuipers. He is ending his legislative tenure having earned the admiration and deep respect of his colleagues in the Senate and the entire Michigan Legislature; and

Whereas, Wayne Kuipers is a proud son of Michigan's west coast and a lifelong resident of the Holland area. After earning a bachelor's degree from Calvin College and a master's degree from Aquinas College, he put his management skills to work in the landscape industry. His deep personal faith and civic dedication guided him as he raised his family. He became a member of the Holland Area Chamber of Commerce, the Holland Kiwanis, and the Holland Area Right to Life and is involved in numerous civic and business groups; and

Whereas, Recognizing his leadership and his dedication, the residents of Ottawa and Kent Counties elected Wayne Kuipers to the Michigan House of Representatives in 1998. He served his district and the entire state with integrity and honesty as a State Representative from 1999 until his election to the Michigan Senate in 2002. Always trying to do a better job for his constituents and the state, he attended and graduated from the Michigan Political Leadership Program and the Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development; and

Whereas, While in the House of Representatives, Senator Kuipers was appointed to chair the Education Committee, the House Republican Task Force on Government Waste, and the select committee on Strategies to Reduce Teen Pregnancy. In recognition of Senator Kuipers' strong leadership skills, upon his election to the Senate, he was appointed to chair the Senate Education Committee. During his second Senate term, he was given the rare opportunity to chair both the Education and the Judiciary Committees, while still serving on other committees, such as Transportation, Government Operations, and Energy Policy and Public Utilities. Throughout his legislative tenure, Senator Kuipers worked tirelessly to enhance the lives of Michigan's young people by seeking to strengthen Michigan's Revised School Code. He sponsored legislation to encourage parental involvement in a child's education, to increase the number of public school academies in the state, and to raise the bar for public schools; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we commend and thank Senator Wayne Kuipers for his dedicated service to our great state; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to Senator Kuipers as a testament of our admiration, our esteem, and our good wishes for his future success.