

Senator Prusi offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 213.

A resolution of tribute for the Honorable Irma Clark-Coleman.

Whereas, On the occasion of her retirement from the Michigan Senate, the members of this legislative body deem it a great honor to congratulate Senator Irma Clark-Coleman after eight years of service. Her long and distinguished career working for the people of Wayne County in numerous key posts included her diligent efforts on the Detroit Board of Education for seven years, three as president. She brought those experiences and insights to Lansing in 1999 following her election to the Michigan House of Representatives, where she was an effective advocate for her Detroit community for two terms prior to her tenure in the Senate; and

Whereas, Senator Clark-Coleman has been a lifelong education advocate. Her vision, experience, and leadership have been invaluable assets in the Legislature as she worked to make equal and effective education available to the masses. She has contributed to the legislative process through sponsorship of bills to limit K-3 class size, to implement higher standards of pupil promotion, and to allow students in religious programs to receive grant funds. Recognizing her strong conviction and dedication to education, Governor Granholm appointed Senator Clark-Coleman to the National Education Commission, where she has served for the last six years; and

Whereas, Senator Clark-Coleman has received several awards honoring her dedication to the city of Detroit and its children from civic organizations, business groups, and educational institutions. As testament to her leadership skills, Irma Clark-Coleman was named Michigan State Director of the National Foundation for Women Legislators; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we offer this resolution as an expression of our gratitude to the Honorable Irma Clark-Coleman for her many contributions to the people of Michigan; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to Senator Clark-Coleman as evidence of our esteem and best wishes.