

Senator Prusi offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 215.

A resolution of tribute for the Honorable Jim Barcia.

Whereas, It is with great respect for his commitment to the 31st Senate District and the entire state of Michigan that we offer this expression of thanks and commendation to Senator Jim Barcia as he brings to a close his distinguished service to this legislative body. His sensible approach to lawmaking and his sensitivity to the needs and concerns of Michiganders during a challenging time in our state's history have been deeply appreciated; and

Whereas, A native of Bay City and graduate of Saginaw Valley State University, Jim Barcia has been a dedicated public servant representing the Bay City and Saginaw areas for many years and in many different capacities. His legislative experience goes back several decades, when the young Jim Barcia worked as a staff assistant to the distinguished U.S. Senator Philip Hart. From 1979 to 1992, he served in the Michigan House of Representatives and Michigan Senate and held leadership positions in both chambers. In 1992, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and sent to Washington, D.C., where he continued working on behalf of Michigan's Saginaw Bay and Thumb Areas for several more years; and

Whereas, In 2002, Jim Barica returned to the Michigan Senate, bringing with him a deep well of legislative experience and a strong concern for the future of the state of Michigan. In recognition of his leadership abilities, Senator Barcia was elected to serve as the Associate President pro tempore of the Senate and was an assistant floor leader for a time. During his two terms in the Senate, he championed hunting and fishing legislation and worked to protect the state's rich agricultural and natural resource heritages. His leadership and insight were invaluable to the work of several Senate committees, including the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules, the State Police and Military Affairs Subcommittee, and the Hunting, Fishing and Outdoor Recreation Committee, which he chaired; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we offer this accolade of tribute to salute the Honorable Jim Barcia as he brings to a close his distinguished tenure as a lawmaker; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to Senator Barcia as a testament of our deep respect and good wishes.