

Senator Bishop offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 219.

A resolution honoring Gary S. Olson.

Whereas, Gary S. Olson's outstanding efforts span over three decades of service to the state of Michigan. His professionalism and dedication to the improvement of Michigan's economy, in his role as director of the Senate Fiscal Agency, have been of critical significance in steering Michigan through some of the most difficult and challenging economic times the state has ever seen; and

Whereas, In 1977, Gary graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Michigan. Gary then went on to earn his master's degree in economics from Michigan State University in 1979; and

Whereas, His distinguished public service career began in 1978 and has taken many forms. Gary has handled numerous tasks serving as chief committee aide to the Taxation Committee of the Michigan House of Representatives, senior economist to the Senate Fiscal Agency, and deputy director of the Senate Fiscal Agency for five years; and

Whereas, In January 1991, Gary was appointed as director of the Senate Fiscal Agency by the Senate Fiscal Agency Board of Governors. As director of this agency, Gary is the principal fiscal advisor to the Michigan Senate and admirably directs a staff of 23 professionals whose primary responsibilities are to forecast the economy, revenues, and size of the deficit, and then guide Senators to a balanced budget, as well as evaluate proposals for the Governor. His work in these areas has been and will continue to be significant and invaluable; and

Whereas, Over Gary's very impressive career, he has earned many accolades and awards. In 2010, he received the Steven D. Gold Award, one of the most prestigious awards given in his profession. This recognition "honors professionals who have made significant contributions to state and local fiscal policy and whose work reflects Steven Gold's remarkable ability to span the interests of scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and advocates with integrity and evenhandedness." These are characteristics truly possessed by Gary S. Olson; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we join together with the Michigan Legislature, legislative staff, and the entire state to honor and commend Gary S. Olson for his many years of service to the Michigan Legislature. May he know of our heartfelt gratitude and best wishes that his future be filled with health, happiness, and ample time to travel and to enjoy life with his wife Teresa at their cottage on the shores of Lake Michigan; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Gary S. Olson as evidence of the highest esteem of the members of the Michigan Legislature.