

Rep. Darany offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 10.

A resolution to declare February 4, 2013, as Rosa Parks Day of Courage in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, It is with great respect that the members of this legislative body are proud to join with the citizens of Michigan in remembering this historic individual for her heroic actions that served as a catalyst for justice and equality; and

Whereas, Rosa Louise McCauley Parks was born in Tuskegee, Alabama on February 4, 1913, to James and Leona (Edwards) McCauley; and

Whereas, Rosa Parks' use of non-violent, civil disobedience became an exemplification of change when advocating for human rights and dignity while advancing an end to discrimination; and

Whereas, Rosa Parks was arrested on December 1, 1955, for refusing to give up her seat to a white passenger on a Montgomery, Alabama bus. This action ignited the Montgomery Bus Boycott and resulted in thousands of African Americans boycotting the Montgomery bus system for more than a year. This boycott continued until the bus segregation law was changed on December 21, 1956, after the United States Supreme Court ruled on November 13, 1956, that the Montgomery segregation law was unconstitutional. This was a great turning point in the fight for civil rights; and

Whereas, These actions and the civil rights movement led to the passage of Civil Rights Act of 1964, which removed the status of legal discrimination against African Americans and guaranteed equality under the law; and

Whereas, Rosa Parks has been honored and was the recipient of many awards for her efforts on behalf of social justice, including the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest civilian honor in the United States, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom; and

Whereas, Rosa Parks inspired a long struggle against racial segregation in the United States. She highlighted the strength of non-violent protest by her bravery and determination and became a catalyst for change; and

Whereas, In 1957 Rosa Parks and her husband Raymond Parks moved to Michigan and remained in Michigan until her death on October 24, 2005; and

Whereas, A special celebration will be held at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan on February 4, 2013, to honor this historic individual. The museum is home of the historic Rosa Parks city bus that prompted the events that changed the course of history in the United States in the struggle for justice and equality; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare February 4, 2013, as Rosa Parks Day of Courage in the state of Michigan.