

Rep. Olumba offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 31.

A resolution to urge the Speaker to recognize the Independent Urban Democracy Caucus, and provide it with the opportunity to negotiate the terms and privileges of the caucus, consistent with that of the two major party caucuses.

Whereas, Article IV, Section 16 of the *Constitution of the State of Michigan of 1963* states:

Each house, except as otherwise provided in this constitution, shall choose its own officers and determine the rules of its proceedings...

; and

Whereas, Under the Standing Rules of the House of Representatives, the Speaker serves as the leader and chief administrator of the House of Representatives; and

Whereas, Traditionally, the Speaker recognizes and authorizes funding to support the two major party caucuses represented in the House; and

Whereas, Under the two major party system, the fullest breadth and scope of constituent concerns, needs and policy messages may not be adequately represented or realized in our legislative discourse. Furthermore, the needs and concerns of some communities may be ignored or not prioritized in deference to the agendas of the two major party caucuses; and

Whereas, To fulfill the responsibilities of these elected offices, it is necessary that members of the House of Representatives be permitted to form independent political caucuses, organized around and united by a common philosophy and interest, that through its discussions and advocacy, advance the message, concerns and needs of the communities represented in this body. In order to affect these outcomes, independent political caucuses require the resources, status, and privileges afforded to the two major party caucuses; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the Speaker to recognize the Independent Urban Democracy Caucus, and provide it with the opportunity to negotiate the terms and privileges of the caucus, consistent with that of the two major party caucuses.