

Senator Schuitmaker offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 66.

A resolution to declare June 8, 2013, as Michigan Flower Planting Day.

Whereas, Agriculture is the second-largest industry in the state of Michigan, and floriculture is the fourth-largest commodity and the largest specialty crop; and

Whereas, Michigan is a national leader in the production of floriculture products, only behind California and Florida; and

Whereas, There are over 584 commercial growers in Michigan who distribute a wholesale value of over \$376 million; and

Whereas, Michigan's floriculture industry employs over 9,000 workers; and

Whereas, Michigan's floriculture industry has continued to increase an annual farm-gate value of \$397.4 million; and

Whereas, The floriculture industry in Michigan ranks No. 1 nationally in sales of impatiens, begonias, geraniums, petunias, marigolds, and Easter lilies and second nationally in sales of pansies, chrysanthemums, potted vegetable plants, potted hostas, and flowering bulbs; and

Whereas, The Michigan Floriculture Growers Council represents the collective business interests of the floriculture sector of Michigan's economy; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That June 8, 2013, be declared Michigan Flower Planting Day. We recognize this date as a day when residents who have yet to beautify their yards and patios with flowers are encouraged to do so, not only improving the great appearance of our state and the quality of life for gardeners and their neighbors, but also supporting Michigan's vibrant floriculture industry; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Michigan Floriculture Growers Council.