

Senator Caswell offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 137.

A resolution to declare May 2014 as Community Action Agency Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Citizens with limited income continue to need opportunities to improve their lives and their living conditions, thus ensuring that all citizens are able to live in dignity; and

Whereas, Michigan and the entire United States must continue to promote economic security by providing support and opportunities for all citizens in need of assistance; and

Whereas, Community action agencies were established by law in 1964 under President Lyndon Johnson in effort to aid in the War on Poverty, making 2014 the 50th anniversary of community action in the United States; and

Whereas, The month of May has been designated by the United States Congress as National Community Action Month; and

Whereas, Michigan's 29 community action agencies are the only community-based organizations providing full wraparound, locally-directed services in all 83 counties in the state; and

Whereas, Community action agencies in Michigan provide services or links to services to more than 182,000 residents every year; and

Whereas, Michigan's community action agencies assist nearly 90,000 families statewide by providing a variety of services, such as early childhood education, Head Start, senior services, affordable housing, food assistance, energy assistance, financial literacy classes, and job training programs, among others; and

Whereas, In the 2012 fiscal year, community action agencies, in cooperation with the Michigan Department of Human Services, successfully administered weatherization assistance program funds which supported energy-efficiency improvements in more than 10,778 Michigan homes; and

Whereas, Community action agencies in Michigan serve as catalysts for innovative partnerships. In 2013, agencies in Hillsdale, Jackson, and Lenawee Counties assisted over 23,369 residents in areas focusing on community and economic development, homeless and housing services, youth and family educational services, stability and life skills services, and basic needs; and

Whereas, Michigan's community action agencies have leveraged their federal allocation of the Community Services Block Grant and other federal, state, local, and private sources of funding to create more than \$332 million in economic activity statewide in 2013; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body declare May 2014 as Community Action Agency Month in the state of Michigan; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Michigan Community Action Agency Association.