

Senator Whitmer offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 200.

A resolution of tribute for the Honorable Carl M. Levin.

Whereas, The members of this legislative body are honored to commend and thank Senator Carl Levin for his dedicated service to the people of the state of Michigan and the entire country. For the last 36 years, Senator Levin has been a strong advocate in the United States Senate for the working men and women of Michigan; and

Whereas, A lifelong Michigander and Detroit native, Carl Levin attended Detroit Central High School before graduating from Swarthmore College and Harvard Law School. He was the general counsel for the Michigan Civil Rights Commission from 1964 to 1967, where he helped form the Detroit Public Defender's Office and led the Appellate Division of that office. He also served as a special assistant attorney general for the state of Michigan and chief appellate defender for the city of Detroit from 1968 to 1969 before being elected to the Detroit City Council (known then as the Detroit Common Council) in 1969. He served as president of the Council from 1973 to 1977. In 1978, he was first elected to the United States Senate and was re-elected in 1984, 1990, 1996, 2002, and 2008; and

Whereas, Throughout his legislative career, Senator Levin has been a champion for Michigan's working families. From the beginning of his Senate tenure, he has been a member of the Armed Services Committee, where he most recently served as chairman, a position he held since 2007. Having never served in uniform, he feels this is a way to provide service. He has also served on committees such as the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, the Intelligence Committee, and as chairman of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations; and

Whereas, Carl Levin has spent his career in the Senate fighting for a better future for Michigan and America. He has fought for Michigan manufacturing and the working families who depend on it for their livelihoods and to make sure that America leads the world in innovation and technology for decades to come. He has fought to make sure we have the strongest military on earth, protecting us from today's threats and preparing us for tomorrow's. He has fought to ensure that we keep the faith with our troops and their families and that, as the arsenal of democracy, Michigan's manufacturing and engineering expertise helps keep our country secure. He has fought for a government that protects taxpayers and upholds high ethical standards; a government that puts consumers and average families ahead of privileged interests. He has fought to preserve Michigan's natural wonders and cultural heritage and for a society that honors the Founding Fathers' vision of a nation that recognizes that all of us are created equal; and

Whereas, Among his notable achievements, Senator Levin has been the United States Senate's strongest advocate for policies that protect Michigan's precious and diverse natural environment. He has played a leading role in helping found the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Keweenaw National Historic Park and legislation to preserve Michigan wilderness areas. Senator Levin has focused on taking care of the men and women of our military and their families, supporting much-needed pay raises and improvements in treatment and other policies for wounded warriors. He also has led oversight efforts to improve efficiency and reduce cost overruns in expensive weapons programs; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we extend our appreciation and thanks to the Honorable Carl M. Levin as he completes his service in the United States Senate; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Senator Levin as evidence of our gratitude and best wishes for his future endeavors.