

Rep. Brinks offered the following resolution:

**House Resolution No. 164.**

A resolution to express the sense of this legislative body that the state of Michigan should continue its efforts to further reduce the rate of teen pregnancy by promoting programs with proven results.

Whereas, Teen pregnancy is a problem that crosses all racial, cultural and socio-economic lines. It is closely related to infant health concerns including premature birth and low birth rates as well as critical social issues, such as poverty, education attainment, and involvement in the child welfare system and the criminal justice system. Parenthood is the leading reason for teen girls dropping out of school, causing more than 50 percent of teen mothers in the United States to never graduate from high school; and

Whereas, Despite progress in reducing teen pregnancy rates in Michigan, teen pregnancy continues to impact the physical, educational, social, and economic well-being of our citizens, communities, and state; and

Whereas, Teen pregnancy impacts the Michigan economy and costs Michigan taxpayers. All of us play an integral role in preventing teen pregnancy in our respective communities. The efforts to prevent teen pregnancies will collectively contribute to decreasing state taxpayer expenses related to teen pregnancies and teen births; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That it is the sense of this legislative body that the state of Michigan should continue its efforts to reduce the rates of teen pregnancies and births, especially in communities where teen pregnancy rates remain high; and be it further

Resolved, That it is the sense of this legislative body that the state of Michigan should raise awareness about the importance of this critical issue by promoting parent-child communication and investing in programs that have been proven to reduce teen pregnancy.