Rep. Garrett offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 244.

A resolution to urge the United States Congress to authorize more aggressive funding for research into the Zika virus.

Whereas, The rapid spread of the Zika virus is quickly becoming a global public health crisis. This virus, commonly spread by Aedes Aegypti and Aedes Albopictus mosquitoes, has been linked to birth defects and other potentially dangerous health outcomes; and

Whereas, Health officials have reported human cases of Zika in a growing number of states. These cases were all determined to be travel-related. Affected countries include South America, the Caribbean, Central and South America; and

Whereas, Much is still unknown about the Zika virus and potential health outcomes from exposure. Although the virus is commonly spread by mosquitos, it can also be spread through unprotected sex, blood transfusions or rarely from mother to child around the time of birth. There is no vaccine to treat Zika; and

Whereas, In a relatively short time, Zika has become a global epidemic that has the potential to spread rapidly in the United States. It is imperative for Congress to appropriate the funds necessary to support research and respond to this disease; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the United States Congress to authorize more aggressive funding for research into the Zika virus; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation