

Senators O'Brien and Kowall offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 196.

A resolution commemorating September 11-17, 2016, as Michigan Patriot Week.

Whereas, The Legislature recognizes that understanding American history and America's First Principles are indispensable to the survival of our republic as a free people. In great reverence to the victims of the September 11, 2001, attacks, the Legislature acknowledges that American citizens must take time to honor the First Principles, founders, documents, and symbols of their history; and

Whereas, The events that led to the signing of *The Constitution of the United States of America* by the delegates of the Constitutional Convention on September 17, 1787, have significance for every American and are honored in public schools across the nation on September 17 of each year as Constitution Day; and

Whereas, Revolution, the rule of law, social compact, equality, unalienable rights, and limited government are the First Principles upon which America was founded and flourishes; and

Whereas, Exceptional, visionary, and indispensable Americans such as Thomas Paine, Patrick Henry, John Adams, John Marshall, George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, Martin Luther King, Jr., Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison founded and advanced the United States of America; and

Whereas, The Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the congressional resolution forwarding the Constitution to the states, Marbury v. Madison, the Seneca Falls Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions, the Gettysburg Address, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the "I Have a Dream" speech are key documents that embody America's First Principles and have advanced American liberty; and

Whereas, The Bennington Flag, original Betsy Ross American flag, current American Flag, Suffragist Flag, Fort Sumter Flag, Gadsden Flag, United States Honor Flag, and flag of the state of Michigan are fundamental physical symbols of American history and freedom that should be studied and remembered by each American citizen; and

Whereas, We recognize that each generation needs to renew the spirit of America based on America's First Principles, historical figures, founding documents, and symbols of America; and

Whereas, The citizens, schools and other educational institutions, government agencies, municipalities, and nonprofit, religious, labor, community, and business organizations are urged to recognize and participate in Patriot Week so that all may offer the reverence that is due to our free republic; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we hereby commemorate September 11-17, 2016, as Michigan Patriot Week, which symbolically begins on September 11 and concludes on September 17, Constitution Day.