

Rep. Liberati offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 60.

A resolution to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Michigan State Police.

Whereas, Throughout the century, the exemplary men and women of the Michigan State Police have served the citizens of our state with the utmost dedication, proficiency, and integrity. During the celebratory observance of this historic milestone, the people of Michigan honor their distinguished state police force and offer unending appreciation and admiration; and

Whereas, What began as a stopgap security measure during the strenuous days of World War I has now progressed to a world-renowned police agency. The Michigan Department of State Police was first organized as the Michigan State Troops Permanent Force by Governor Albert Sleeper on April 19, 1917, for domestic security and approved for permanent status by the legislature in 1919. During the early years, the state police assisted local police, provided traffic patrol, guided law enforcement, and enforced prohibition laws; and

Whereas, The Michigan State Police have grown from a cavalry of three hundred men to a full-service police agency with nearly three thousand enlisted and civilian members. The department has continued to advance its reputation for providing service through excellence, integrity, and courtesy. The Michigan State Police has a history of equitable recruitment, with the hiring of the first African American trooper and the first two female troopers in 1967. Colonel Kriste Kibbey Etue became the first female director when she was appointed by Governor Rick Snyder in 2011; and

Whereas, The professionalism and efficiency of the Michigan State Police are recognized nationally for innovation in numerous areas of law enforcement. The Bureau of Investigation and Identification first created in 1919, which included a forensics lab, polygraph machines, and fingerprint files, became the model for scientific crime solving. The state police recruit schools were reproduced in other states as were the department's methods of scientific reporting and analysis of accidents and traffic enforcement. The department established the first state-operated police radio in the world, and developed a sophisticated computer-based law enforcement information network (LEIN) that was the first of its kind; and

Whereas, The Michigan State Police has continued to excel in the face of uncertainty and, when not protecting the people of Michigan from domestic and foreign threats, has taken on additional duties in the area of crime prevention. The force has unwaveringly ensured safety and freedom through the trying times of war, civil unrest, and the drug epidemic. Troopers are now tasked with security at the Capitol, freeway patrol in metro areas, and probing for crime solutions; and

Whereas, The Fallen Trooper Memorial was dedicated in 2001 for the fifty-two members of the department that have affirmed their oath to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution, the honors and traditions of the Michigan State Police, and the public safety of the people of Michigan with their ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. The selflessness, bravery, and commitment to duty of these troopers will always be remembered by the citizens of Michigan; and

Whereas, Throughout the years, the Michigan State Police has mobilized many times to maintain order, protect property, and provide emergency relief. Michigan citizens have come to rely on these valiant law enforcement officers in times of civil disorder, natural disaster, or personal distress, and their trust has been well-founded. We are indeed fortunate and grateful for

the contributions of the members of the Michigan Department of State Police to the people of this state; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body commemorate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Michigan State Police. We honor the contributions that the State Police have made to the state of Michigan and the safety of its citizens and offer the very highest praise, commendation, and profound gratitude.