

Rep. Cole offered the following resolution

House Resolution No. 66.

A resolution to declare April 23-29, 2017, as Natural Gas Week in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Michigan's first known commercial natural gas well began production in April 1928 in Muskegon County. Exploration began before that in the late 1800's in the Port Huron area. Today, approximately 13 percent of the natural gas we use is produced right here in Michigan, with over 99 percent of the remainder produced domestically in the United States. As recently as 2005, more than 20 percent of the gas consumed in Michigan was produced in Michigan; and

Whereas, The advancements in the abundance of natural gas across the United States has led to lower prices and significant cost savings for Michigan households and businesses; and

Whereas, Approximately 80 percent of Michigan households use natural gas for home heating to provide safety and warmth; and

Whereas, For our industrial and manufacturing sector, natural gas has helped to revitalize industries and restore jobs domestically. Natural gas is used to manufacture every day consumer products like cars, fertilizer, plastics, paper, and medicine; and

Whereas, Michigan ranks first in the nation as the state with the most natural gas storage at nearly 685 billion cubic feet. With nearly 15 percent of our nation's working gas storage, Michigan's gas storage serves as a natural epicenter for users to have backup supply, balancing and inventory management, and a physical hedging source for pricing stability; and

Whereas, The increased use of clean, affordable, and reliable natural gas for electricity generation has led to a market-based strategy to reduce overall emissions while at the same time providing a proven grid resource that has quick ramp and 24/7 capability to aid in the usage of alternative low capacity rated renewable resources; and

Whereas, Natural gas can be used for efficient and cleaner combined heat and power systems that have the dual purpose of powering facilities and capturing what would otherwise be waste steam to provide additional power or heat; and

Whereas, The natural gas community supports roughly 28,000 jobs in the state. In addition, natural gas adds to Michigan's economy through tax revenue, increased revenue to local businesses, and royalties to local homeowners; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare April 23-29, 2017, as Natural Gas Week in the state of Michigan. We recognize the contribution natural gas has made in fueling Michigan's economy forward and salute the importance of natural gas to Michigan's economy and the lives of all Michiganders; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Michigan Public Service Commission, and the President of the United States of America.