

Senator Nofs offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 42.

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

Whereas, The Michigan State Police was first organized as the Michigan State Troops Permanent Force in 1917 for the purpose of domestic security and moved to permanent status under 1919 PA 26. During the early years, the Michigan State Police protected the homeland during the Great War, provided traffic patrol and general rural law enforcement, and enforced prohibition law. Over the last century, the department evolved to further serve the citizens of Michigan, eventually becoming recognized as a world-class leader in law enforcement; and

Whereas, The professionalism and efficiency of the Michigan State Police were noted nationally as the department took the lead in several key initiatives, including the development of one of the world's leading public safety two-way radio communications systems, the Michigan Public Safety Communications System, which is the largest public safety communications system in North America; and

Whereas, Throughout its history, the Michigan State Police has undergone several transformations to advance its reputation for service through excellence, integrity, and courtesy. Following the terrorist attacks of September 2001, the director of the Michigan State Police was designated as the State Director of Homeland Security to reflect the state's need to become better prepared for terrorism and incidents involving weapons of mass destruction. When faced with rising crime in our state's urban cities, the department developed a crime reduction plan known as the Secure Cities Partnership that has resulted in double-digit declines in violent crime to the benefit of the entire state; and

Whereas, The Michigan State Police is an agency that has continued to excel in the face of change and, when not probing for crime solutions, has taken on new duties in the area of crime prevention. As technological advances progress each year, the department continues to lead in high technology, as evidenced by the creation of the Michigan Cyber Command Center and Biometrics and Identification Division to emphasize the critical roles new scientific and technological advances play in the future of public safety; and

Whereas, The Michigan State Police recognizes that collaboration with its public safety partners is essential. The Statewide Records Management System was established in 2013 to provide law enforcement and correctional facilities with an all-inclusive information sharing tool. The opportunity for agencies across the state to share information from incident and arrest reports, as well as other records maintained by the system, is invaluable; and

Whereas, The Michigan State Police is dedicated to building a diverse workforce and being inclusive to all of Michigan's residents, with special interest dedicated to serving the youth population. In 2003, the agency saw the appointment of its first African-American director; in 2006, the first Hispanic director; and in 2011, the first female director. The Michigan State Police created the Michigan Youth Leadership Academy to provide teens with the opportunity to learn leadership and decision-making skills, as well as build positive relationships with law enforcement officers. In 2008, the Michigan Youth Leadership Academy received the International Association of Chiefs of Police Civil Rights Award; and

Whereas, The Michigan State Police is committed to building strong relationships with the communities it serves and fostering trust with the citizens served. Each of its 30 posts host a Citizens' Academy to give residents a first-hand look at a trooper's duties and the opportunity to meet the people who put on the uniform every day. The Michigan State Police is the first state police agency in the nation to offer this opportunity at each of its posts; and

Whereas, The Michigan State Police is a leader in the fight against heroin and opiate-based prescription drug abuse. In 2016, the Angel Program was offered at the Gaylord Post, allowing an individual struggling with drug addiction to visit the post to ask for assistance without fear of prosecution and be guided through a professional substance abuse assessment and intake process to ensure proper treatment placement. The Angel Program is now accessible in 19 northern Michigan counties, and is expected to expand statewide by the end of 2017; 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, 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 State Police to the people of this state; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That an accolade of tribute be hereby accorded to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Michigan State Police; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Colonel Kriste Kibbey Etue, director of the Michigan State Police, and to the members of this greatly respected department as evidence of the high regard and esteem held for them by the Michigan Legislature and the people of the state of Michigan that they serve.