

Senator Meekhof offered the following resolution:

**Senate Resolution No. 218.**

A resolution of tribute for the Honorable Tonya Schuitmaker.

Whereas, On the occasion of her retirement from the Senate, the members of this legislative body deem it a great honor to congratulate Senator Schuitmaker on her eight years of dedication and hard work for the citizens of the Twenty-sixth District and the entire state; and

Whereas, After receiving her bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and her juris doctor from the Detroit College of Law, Tonya Schuitmaker practiced law and became active in her community, serving on many boards and commissions, including the Michigan Board of Medicine, the Van Buren Community Health Board, the Van Buren Community Corrections Advisory Board, and the Midwestern Higher Education Compact Executive Committee; and

Whereas, In 2004, Tonya Schuitmaker was elected to the House, the first of three terms. She was elected to the Senate in 2010 and reelected in 2014. She ably served on several standing committees, including Energy and Technology, Health Policy, and Oversight, and as vice chair of the Judiciary Committee. She worked on education and other issues while on Appropriations subcommittees as chair of Higher Education, and vice chair of Capital Outlay, Community Colleges, and Judiciary. Senator Schuitmaker's commitment to her constituents and contributions in these committee posts have been much appreciated; and

Whereas, During her first and second terms, Senator Schuitmaker's leadership skills were recognized as she was chosen by her colleagues to serve as President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the second woman to hold this position. She also served on the Legislative Council and brought her legal expertise and experience to the Michigan Law Revision Commission and the Michigan Commission on Uniform State Laws; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we offer this expression of tribute to commend and thank the Honorable Tonya Schuitmaker for her notable contributions to this legislative body and to our state; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to Senator Schuitmaker as evidence of our esteem and best wishes.