

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.34

Senator Shirkey offered the following concurrent resolution:

1 A concurrent resolution of tribute offered as a memorial for
2 Jack Faxon, former member of the House of Representatives and the
3 Senate.

4 Whereas, It is with great sadness that the members of the
5 Michigan Legislature learned of the passing of Jack Faxon.
6 Throughout his long legislative career, he was a dedicated public
7 servant and eternal educator who worked tirelessly for the
8 residents of southeast Michigan; and

9 Whereas, Jack Faxon was born in Detroit in 1936 and was raised
10 there, graduating from Central High School. He continued his
11 education at Wayne State University, receiving Bachelor of Science
12 and Master of Education degrees, and at the University of Michigan,
13 receiving a Master of History degree; and

14 Whereas, After college, Mr. Faxon taught government at

1 Southwestern High School in Detroit. Called dynamic, no-nonsense
2 and fearless, he gave students the desire to succeed. In 1961, he
3 was the youngest delegate elected to the Michigan Constitutional
4 Convention; and

5 Whereas, Jack Faxon was elected in 1964 to the first of 15
6 sessions he would serve in the Michigan Legislature. He served six
7 years in the House of Representatives representing part of Detroit
8 in the 15th District. In 1970, he was elected to the state Senate
9 serving until 1994. Senator Faxon first represented the 7th Senate
10 District in Detroit and later the 15th Senate District encompassing
11 parts of Oakland County. Jack Faxon was a strong voice and leader
12 within the Legislature. In the Senate, he held the leadership
13 position of Assistant President Pro Tempore from 1975 until 1977
14 when he ascended to President Pro Tempore, a position he held
15 through 1982; and

16 Whereas, Jack Faxon's love of the arts and commitment to
17 education guided his service in the Legislature. He worked to
18 establish the Michigan Council for the Arts, develop educational
19 programs related to drug abuse and smoking, fund a statewide
20 assessment program in education, and promote an examination of the
21 Michigan community college system. As a Senator, he chaired the
22 Joint Legislative Committee on the Arts and the Senate Education
23 Committee. Senator Faxon was a member of the Joint Special Study
24 Committee on Libraries and the Senate Select Committee for the
25 Advancement of the Creative Arts and Humanities; and

26 Whereas, The arts and education were important to Senator
27 Faxon both as a legislator and as a private citizen. He was a
28 member of the Founders Society of the Detroit Institute of Arts,
29 supported state funding for the Institute in the 1970s, and served

1 on the Library of Michigan Board of Trustees from 1985 to 1993. In
2 1968, he founded the International School in Farmington Hills, a
3 multilingual academy, serving as headmaster until recently; and

4 Whereas, Jack Faxon's dedication to the people of Michigan,
5 and all those who pursue the joy of learning, will not soon be
6 forgotten. His efforts and achievements will continue to enrich our
7 state; now, therefore, be it

8 Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives
9 concurring), That we offer this expression of our highest tribute
10 to honor the memory of Jack Faxon, a member of the Michigan House
11 of Representatives from 1965 to 1970 and the Michigan Senate from
12 1971 to 1994; and be it further

13 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
14 Faxon family as evidence of our lasting esteem for his memory.