

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 96

Reps. Paquette, Kuppa, Bellino, Frederick, O'Malley, Griffin, Markkanen, Vaupel, Leutheuser, LaFave, Howell, Wakeman, Berman, Gay-Dagnogo, Allor, Calley, Chirkun, Crawford, Garza, Haadsma, Jones, Kahle, Lasinski, Rendon, Sneller, Warren, Webber and Witwer offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare May 12-18, 2019, as STEM Awareness
2 Week in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Michigan's unique history in agriculture, automotive,
4 chemistry, manufacturing, automation, and innovation across many
5 sectors provides us an opportunity to light the way for our future
6 in computational thinking and modeling by promoting, adopting, and
7 implementing computer science standards in our state; and

8 Whereas, Currently only 35% of high schools nationally offer
9 computer science, yet 90% of parents want their children to have



1 access to computer science learning opportunities; and

2 Whereas, The adoption of K-12 computer science standards is
3 critical so that students in our state are competitive regionally,
4 nationally, and globally; and

5 Whereas, STEM education refers to the areas of science,
6 technology, engineering, and mathematics; and

7 Whereas, Participating in STEM activities increases engagement
8 in education, promotes equity, supports literacy development, and
9 fosters technologically alert and empowered students, who gain
10 multiple ways to frame problems and transfer knowledge to new
11 situations; and

12 Whereas, A globally competitive, knowledge-based economy is a
13 fact for students, now and in the foreseeable future, and science,
14 technology, engineering, and mathematics are critical drivers in
15 that economy; and

16 Whereas, STEM is not only science, technology, engineering,
17 and mathematics, but also a way of learning in which students
18 comprehend by doing, thinking critically, and providing solutions
19 that drive healthy, thriving communities; and

20 Whereas, STEM occupations are among the highest paying,
21 fastest growing, and most influential in driving economic growth
22 and innovation; and

23 Whereas, If Michigan students become inspired by science,
24 technology, engineering, and mathematics at an early age, they will
25 be more likely to enter those growing career fields when they
26 graduate; and

27 Whereas, Computer science is a discipline in which students
28 learn new approaches to problem solving, harness the power of
29 computational thinking, and create, not just consume, technology;

1 and

2 Whereas, The Michigan STEM Advisory Council has supported
3 opportunities for transforming learning through computer science
4 with statewide professional learning through MI-Coding; and

5 Whereas, A STEM education will ensure our state's workforce
6 will be equipped for the jobs of tomorrow; now, therefore, be it

7 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
8 this legislative body declare May 12-18, 2019, as STEM Awareness
9 Week in the state of Michigan. We urge all citizens to recognize
10 the importance of STEM education in preparing our young people for
11 the high-tech jobs of the future.