

**SUBSTITUTE FOR
HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 329**

1 A resolution to declare December 1, 2020 as HIV/AIDS Awareness
2 Day in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is a virus that
4 attacks the human immune system. While there is not yet a cure, the
5 disease can be controlled with early detection and medical care.
6 There are three stages of HIV: stage 1 HIV or acute HIV infection;
7 stage 2 or chronic HIV infection; and stage 3 or symptomatic HIV
8 infection, referred to as acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS)
9 by the Centers for Disease Control; and

10 Whereas, World AIDS Day was first observed in 1988 through
11 partnership between the World Health Organization and the United
12 Nations as a means of raising awareness of the disease, encouraging

1 increased action to combat the disease, and rejecting HIV stigma.
2 Nationwide, approximately 1.2 million people are living with HIV.
3 In January of 2019, there were 16,306 Michiganders living with an
4 HIV infection and 8,305 living with stage 3 HIV infections; and

5 Whereas, Time has shown that HIV has disproportionately
6 impacted communities of color, racial and ethnic minorities, and
7 gay and bisexual men. In 2018, Blacks/African Americans accounted
8 for 42% of HIV diagnoses while representing only 13% of the
9 population, with Hispanics/Latinos accounting for 27% of new HIV
10 diagnoses and 18% of the population. Out of the 37,968 new HIV
11 diagnoses nationwide in 2018, Black/African American gay, bisexual,
12 or other men who have sex with men (MSM) accounted for 25% of these
13 diagnoses, while Hispanic/Latino MSM make up about 20% of these
14 diagnoses. HIV rates are also disproportionately high among
15 American Indian and Alaska Natives, Asians, and Native Hawaiians
16 and Other Pacific Islanders.

17 Whereas, In Michigan, Black men are disproportionately
18 impacted by HIV. In January 2019, Black Michigan residents
19 accounted for 56% of reported HIV infections, but only make up 14%
20 of the state population. In contrast, White Michigan residents are
21 relatively less likely to have a reported HIV infection. They make
22 up 34% of total reported HIV infections despite making up 75% of
23 the Michigan population; and

24 Whereas, While the widespread use of antiretroviral therapy
25 (ART) has improved the outlook for those living with HIV/AIDS over
26 time, it is estimated that one in seven people living with HIV are
27 unaware of their infection and need testing. The CDC estimates
28 approximately 50,000 new HIV infections occur each year, many of
29 which stem from individuals who do not know they are HIV-positive.

1 Increasing prevention and testing frequency will ensure everyone at
2 high risk for HIV infection is tested so they can receive the
3 treatment needed to avoid spreading the disease or contracting
4 AIDS. The MI Department of Health and Human Services HIV Community
5 Partnership and Prevention Unit works with a network of external
6 partners to offer education, testing, and treatment services to
7 individuals at risk of contracting HIV or developing AIDS; and

8 Whereas, Federal and state efforts to address racial equity in
9 health outcomes include the Health Resources and Services
10 Administration's Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program, the US Department of
11 Health and Human Services' Minority HIV/AIDS Fund; and

12 Whereas, As we reflect on the theme of World AIDS Day 2020,
13 this legislative body will take steps to embody the goals of
14 "global solidarity, shared responsibility." The state of Michigan
15 is committed to upholding health care as a human right and ensuring
16 everyone has equal access to care, no matter their race,
17 socioeconomic status, gender, or sexual orientation; therefore, be
18 it

19 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
20 this legislative body declare December 1, 2020 as HIV/AIDS
21 Awareness Day in the state of Michigan. We urge all Michiganders to
22 do their part to end the negative stigma surrounding HIV, encourage
23 increased testing and access to treatment, and support those who
24 are living with the disease; and be it further

25 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the
26 Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.