

SENATE RESOLUTION NO.8

Senators LaSata, Nesbitt, Barrett, Daley, Runestad, MacDonald, MacGregor, Stamas, Zorn, McBroom, Lauwers, Horn, Victory, Lucido, VanderWall, Bizon and Schmidt, Nesbitt, Barrett, Daley, Runestad, MacDonald, MacGregor, Stamas, Zorn, McBroom, Lauwers, Horn, Victory, Lucido, VanderWall, Bizon and Schmidt offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution recognizing January 27-February 2, 2019, as
2 Catholic Schools Week in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, There are 51,011 students attending 224 Catholic
4 elementary and high schools throughout our great state; and

5 Whereas, The Constitution of Michigan states that "Religion,
6 morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the
7 happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall

1 forever be encouraged"; and

2 Whereas, Catholic school parents pay tuition in addition to
3 supporting public schools through their taxes; and

4 Whereas, Catholic schools comply with the same health, safety,
5 and general welfare regulations required of public schools; and

6 Whereas, The viability of Catholic schools should be
7 encouraged so that declines in Catholic school enrollment, which
8 necessitate increases in public expenditures in the School Aid
9 Fund, can be avoided; and

10 Whereas, Catholic schools instill a broad, values-based
11 education, emphasizing the lifelong development of moral,
12 intellectual, and social values in young people, making them
13 responsible citizens of our state and nation; and

14 Whereas, Catholic schools educate many students who are non-
15 Catholic, many students who are economically disadvantaged, and
16 that a good education remains the single best way out of poverty;
17 and

18 Whereas, With their traditionally high academic standards,
19 high graduation rates, and commitment to community service,
20 Catholic schools and their graduates make a positive contribution
21 to society; and

22 Whereas, January 27-February 2, 2019, has been designated as
23 Catholic Schools Week, with the theme "Catholic Schools: Learn.
24 Serve. Lead. Succeed" as denoted by the National Catholic
25 Educational Association and the United States Conference of
26 Catholic Bishops; and

27 Whereas, The common good of the state of Michigan is
28 strengthened through the continued existence of Catholic schools;
29 and

1 Whereas, Catholic schools seek to form a supporting
2 partnership with each student's family, encouraging the involvement
3 of parents in the education of their children, so that Catholic
4 schools are part of a solution to form productive lives for future
5 generations; now, therefore, be it

6 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
7 body recognize January 27-February 2, 2019, as Catholic Schools
8 Week in the state of Michigan. We support the continued dedication
9 of Catholic schools across Michigan toward academic excellence and
10 the key role Catholic schools play in promoting and ensuring a
11 brighter, stronger future for students; and be it further

12 Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the
13 Michigan Catholic Conference with our highest esteem.