

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 47

Senator Zorn, Alexander, Ananich, Barrett, Bayer, Bizon, Brinks, Bullock, Chang, Daley, Hollier, Horn, Irwin, Johnson, LaSata, Lauwers, Lucido, MacDonald, MacGregor, McCann, McMorrow, Moss, Nesbitt, Outman, Polehanki, Santana, Schmidt, Shirkey, Stamas, Theis, VanderWall and Victory offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to commemorate May 12-18, 2019, as STEM Awareness
2 Week.

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

8 Whereas, STEM education refers to the areas of science,

1 technology, engineering, and mathematics; and

2 Whereas, Currently only 35 percent of high schools nationally
3 offer computer science, yet 90 percent of parents want their
4 children to have access to computer science learning opportunities;
5 and

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

10 Whereas, The adoption of K-12 computer science standards in
11 our state is critical in order for our students to compete
12 regionally, nationally, and globally; and

13 Whereas, Participating in STEM activities increases engagement
14 in education, promotes equity, supports literacy development, and
15 fosters technologically alert and empowered students who gain
16 multiple ways to frame problems and transfer knowledge to new
17 situations; and

18 Whereas, A globally competitive, knowledge-based economy is a
19 fact for students—now and in the foreseeable future—and science,
20 technology, engineering, and mathematics are crucial drivers in
21 that economy; and

22 Whereas, STEM is not only science, technology, engineering,
23 and mathematics, but also a way of learning in which students
24 comprehend by doing, thinking critically, and providing solutions
25 that lead to healthy, thriving communities; and

26 Whereas, Occupations in STEM are among the highest paying,
27 fastest growing, and most influential in stimulating economic
28 growth and innovation; and

29 Whereas, If Michigan students become inspired by science,

1 technology, engineering, and mathematics at an early age, they will
2 be more likely to enter those growing career fields when they
3 graduate; and

4 Whereas, The Michigan STEM Advisory Council has supported
5 opportunities for transforming learning in computer science with
6 statewide professional learning through the program, MI-Coding
7 (<http://www.mi-coding.com>); and

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

10 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
11 body commemorate May 12-18, 2019, as STEM Awareness Week.