

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 8

Senators LaSata, 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
8 forever be encouraged"; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

24 Whereas, The common good of the state of Michigan is
25 strengthened through the continued existence of Catholic schools;
26 and

27 Whereas, Catholic schools seek to form a supporting
28 partnership with each student's family, encouraging the involvement
29 of parents in the education of their children, so that Catholic

1 schools are part of a solution to form productive lives for future
2 generations; now, therefore, be it

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

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