

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 79

Senator Stamas offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to recognize the month of October 2019 as
2 Michigan Library Appreciation Month.

3 Whereas, The Michigan Library Association (MLA) annually
4 designates the month of October as a statewide observance to
5 celebrate the contributions of Michigan's libraries, librarians,
6 and library professionals to their communities and to promote
7 library use and support; and

8 Whereas, Our state's libraries, including school, public,
9 academic, and special libraries are vital institutions and dynamic
10 centers of lifelong learning that play a unique role in ensuring
11 the public's right to know, while empowering people from all walks
12 of life to make informed decisions about the world around them; and

1 Whereas, Libraries play an integral role as community,
2 educational, and cultural centers that bring together diverse
3 populations and serve as important cornerstones in healthy
4 communities; and

5 Whereas, The most recent ideas and information on a wide array
6 of subjects are available in libraries, a cost-effective means for
7 providing education, training, and the opportunity for self-
8 improvement to all individuals without regard to age, race, income,
9 or socioeconomic background; and

10 Whereas, Libraries serve as a vital connection to the people,
11 places, and ideas of the world through books, magazines, videos,
12 and the internet and are also the primary point of online access
13 for people without computers at home, school, or work; and

14 Whereas, Indispensable educational resources for children and
15 teenagers are found in libraries, and are often on the front lines
16 in the battle against illiteracy offering plenty of free
17 activities, while providing safe, enriching entertainment for the
18 whole family; and

19 Whereas, Librarians and library workers play key roles in
20 helping people explore, imagine, and discover new horizons in the
21 vast world of information, knowledge, and entertainment; and

22 Whereas, Two-thirds of adult Americans visit their local
23 public libraries annually, with more than a billion visits made
24 each year by adults, and likewise by students to their school
25 libraries; and

26 Whereas, Michigan's libraries play a key role in the statewide
27 and national discourse on intellectual freedom, equity of access,
28 and narrowing the digital divide and are the very cornerstone of
29 our democracy; and

1 Whereas, Thousands of libraries and library supporters across
2 Michigan are celebrating Michigan Library Appreciation Month this
3 year; now, therefore, be it

4 Resolved by the Michigan Senate, That the members of this
5 legislative body recognize the month of October 2019 as Michigan
6 Library Appreciation Month and encourage all citizens of Michigan
7 to visit their local library and explore the wide variety of
8 cultural and educational riches that libraries hold; and be it
9 further

10 Resolved, That we recognize Michigan's librarians, library
11 professionals, and supporters for their contributions to enrich
12 their communities.