

SENATE RESOLUTION NO.180

Senators Shirkey and Ananich offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution of tribute for the Honorable Tom Barrett.

2 Whereas, It is with gratitude that we recognize Senator Tom
3 Barrett for his work on behalf of the citizens of Michigan, and in
4 particular, his constituents in the Twenty-fourth District.

5 Throughout his tenure in the Senate, Senator Barrett's hard work
6 has benefited not only the people of Clinton County, Eaton County,
7 Ingham County, and Shiawassee County, but all of Michigan's
8 citizens; and

9 Whereas, Senator Barrett's personal experiences prior to
10 taking office reflect a deep commitment to service. Born and raised
11 in Michigan, he decided to join the armed forces immediately after
12 high school graduation. For twenty-two years, Senator Barrett
13 served his country as a member of the United States Army. His tours

1 of duty included Iraq, Kuwait, Guantanamo Bay, and South Korea, and
2 he is a veteran of both Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation
3 Enduring Freedom. He also served in the Michigan Army National
4 Guard as a Blackhawk and Lakota helicopter pilot until he retired
5 from the military in 2022 with the rank of Chief Warrant Officer 2.
6 After obtaining a bachelor's degree in political science from
7 Western Michigan University, Senator Barrett continued to prove his
8 dedication to public service through his work as an analyst with
9 the Michigan Department of Treasury. Senator Barrett is active in
10 many community groups and is a member of the American Legion and
11 Veterans of Foreign Wars. Prior to his time in the Senate, Senator
12 Barrett was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives where
13 he served constituents from the Seventy-first District from 2015 to
14 2018. Senator Barrett is also the dedicated husband to his wife,
15 Ashley, and proud father to his four children, Patrick, Eleanora,
16 Gwendolyn, and Louis; and

17 Whereas, Since his election to the Senate in 2018, Senator
18 Barrett drew on his personal experiences to become a zealous
19 advocate for the hardworking people in the Twenty-fourth District,
20 and a voice for veterans throughout the state. He fought for
21 whistleblower protections for state employees and was instrumental
22 in the passing of legislation to help bridge the communications gap
23 between law enforcement and drivers with autism. Senator Barrett
24 also fought to introduce legislation that prevents homeowners from
25 being charged higher property taxes due to home solar investments.
26 He served with distinction as the chair of the Transportation and
27 Infrastructure Committee and of the Appropriations subcommittees on
28 Military and Veterans Affairs/State Police and Justice and Public
29 Safety. Additionally, Senator Barrett served honorably as the vice

1 chair of the Families, Seniors and Veterans Committee, as well as a
2 member of the Senate committees on Energy and Technology, Insurance
3 and Banking, Judiciary and Public Safety, and Appropriations
4 Subcommittee on Community Health/Human Services; now, therefore, be
5 it

6 Resolved by the Senate, That we offer this expression of
7 tribute to commend and thank the Honorable Tom Barrett for his
8 notable contributions to this legislative body and to our state;
9 and be it further

10 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
11 Senator Tom Barrett as evidence of our appreciation and best wishes
12 as he leaves this legislative body.