

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 186

Senators Shirkey and Ananich offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution of tribute for the Honorable Jim Stamas.

2 Whereas, It is most appropriate that we thank Senator Jim
3 Stamas as his tenure with the Michigan Senate comes to a close. It
4 is a pleasure to salute Senator Stamas for his work on behalf of
5 the people of the state of Michigan and, in particular, his
6 constituents within the Thirty-sixth District, which includes the
7 counties of Alcona, Alpena, Arenac, Gladwin, Iosco, Midland,
8 Montmorency, Oscoda, Otsego, and Presque Isle; and

9 Whereas, Senator Stamas holds a bachelor's degree in business
10 administration from Northwood University and an associate's degree
11 in business management from Delta College. Senator Stamas
12 honorably served his country in both the U.S. Army and the Michigan
13 National Guard where he attained the rank of Specialist E-4. His

1 service to the community started in the family business, Pizza
2 Sam's, where he worked and eventually became general manager and
3 owner. He also worked in real estate and as a project manager for
4 Case Systems. Senator Stamas used his business acumen to benefit
5 the Midland Downtown Development Authority, Midland Downtown
6 Business Association, Midland County Planning Commission, and the
7 Northern Michigan Alliance for Children, serving as a board member
8 for each. Senator Stamas proudly served as Midland Township Trustee
9 from 1997 to 2004 and on the Midland County Board of Commissioners
10 from 2005 to 2008 before joining the Michigan House of
11 Representatives in 2009. The respect of his caucus colleagues was
12 evidenced when he was twice elected as Majority Floor Leader for
13 the 96th and 97th Legislatures. Senator Stamas is a dedicated
14 husband to his wife of over 35 years, Marsha, and a loving father
15 to their two children, Nickolas and Jessica; and

16 Whereas, Since his election to the Michigan Senate in 2014,
17 Senator Stamas has served the citizens of the Thirty-sixth District
18 with great integrity. Senator Stamas' work ethic and bipartisan
19 relationships were key in his selection to chair the Senate
20 Appropriations Committee by the Senate Majority Leader. As chair,
21 he was responsible for appropriating an unprecedented amount of
22 federal and state funding during the pandemic. Senator Stamas also
23 served as chair of the Appropriations subcommittee on General
24 Government, and the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules, and as
25 vice chair of the Michigan Competitiveness Committee. Senator
26 Stamas served with distinction on the following Senate committees:
27 Economic Development and International Investment, Health Policy,
28 Natural Resources, Oversight, and Legislative Council, and the
29 Appropriation subcommittee on Agriculture and Rural Development.

1 Senator Stamas tackled issues of importance to his constituents,
2 such as education funding, infrastructure improvement, and fiscal
3 responsibility. Moreover, he skillfully co-chaired the Joint Select
4 Committee on the Flint Water Public Health Emergency and led state
5 efforts to address the Midland flooding emergencies. His thoughtful
6 yet firm leadership ensured the provision of services to impacted
7 residents in both communities. Not widely known is Senator Stamas'
8 work to preserve the Michigan State Capitol. During his legislative
9 tenure, he worked to preserve the building and to establish
10 sustainable funding resources. He was instrumental in the funding
11 for Heritage Hall, a premier tourist center for the Capitol; now,
12 therefore, be it

13 Resolved by the Senate, That we offer this expression of
14 tribute to commend and thank the Honorable Jim Stamas for his
15 notable contributions to this legislative body; and be it further

16 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
17 Senator Stamas as evidence of our gratitude and best wishes for his
18 future endeavors.