The Speaker, on behalf of the entire membership of the House of Representatives, offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 347.

A resolution of tribute for the Honorable Richard Ball.

Whereas, It is most appropriate to honor Representative Richard Ball for his six years of dedicated and effective service to the people of the state of Michigan. We proudly commend him on his exceptional work and thank him for his contributions to this legislative body; and

Whereas, A native of Owosso, Richard Ball attended the University of Michigan and Ohio State University, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in Optometry. After service in the United States Army, he returned to Ohio State University and earned a master's in physiological optics. Later he attended Michigan State University and earned his doctorate in experimental visual psychology. Dr. Ball has had a distinguished career, with countless accomplishments as a practitioner, as a professor at Michigan State University, and as an author of numerous articles; and

Whereas, Richard Ball was first elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 2004 and reelected twice by the voters of Shiawassee County and Clinton County. He has well utilized his professional experience and community interest while serving in the Michigan Legislature. The blending of professional and community experiences has been evident in his work with the Senior Health, Security and Retirement Committee, the Education Committee, the Health Policy Committee, the Insurance Committee, and the Agriculture Committee, with a noticeable emphasis on health, insurance, agricultural, and professional occupation issues; and

Whereas, Throughout his service with the House of Representatives, Richard Ball has served with distinction as a hardworking and dedicated legislator. He has met his daily duties and committee responsibilities with a sense of thoroughness and professionalism. His contributions to the legislative process and to his community have been exemplary and have earned him recognition from his professional peers, as well as by his legislative colleagues, for his expertise and diligence to the task at hand. His insight and knowledge will be greatly missed; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That tribute be accorded to the Honorable Richard Ball as he concludes his service with the Michigan House of Representatives; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Representative Ball as evidence of our esteem and gratitude.