

Rep. Lamonte offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 170.

A resolution to urge the Attorney General to conduct an investigation to determine why gasoline prices in Michigan are consistently among the highest in the nation and to report the findings along with policy options to the Legislature.

Whereas, The recent spike in gas prices has once again caused concern across Michigan. Gasoline prices affect consumers, the state's tourism industry, and the overall health of the state's economy. Just as we are starting to see encouraging signs that Michigan's economy is improving, the recent spike in prices at the pump threatens this progress and shakes the confidence that is so important to economic activity; and

Whereas, According to the AAA's Fuel Gauge Report, gasoline prices in Michigan during the first week of June were higher than in any other state in the continental United States. While Michigan's high gasoline prices have been blamed on regional refinery issues, Michigan seems to be more adversely impacted than other Midwest states. Ohio's gasoline prices were nearly 30 cents lower than Michigan's. The significant gas price increases that have taken place of late -- even before the summer driving demand takes hold -- has many Michiganders worried about what the situation will be like in a few months; and

Whereas, As the executive responsible for protecting Michigan consumers, the Attorney General has authority to investigate price fixing and price gouging. Unscrupulous parties should not be allowed to make profits at the expense of Michigan consumers. Price fixing and gouging not only harm those who fall victim, but they also erode faith in the integrity of the market and all companies within this industry; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the Attorney General to conduct an investigation to determine why gasoline prices in Michigan are consistently among the highest in the nation and to report the findings along with policy options to the Legislature; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Office of the Attorney General.