

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 65

Reps. Iden, Chirkun, Crawford, Elder, Haadsma, Hertel, Hope, Jones, Lasinski, Liberati, Manoogian, Pagan, Rendon, Shannon, Sneller, Stone, Warren, Whitsett and Wittenberg offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare April 11, 2019, as Chaldean American
2 Day in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Approximately 160,000 Chaldeans reside in Michigan,
4 the largest population outside of the Middle East; and

5 Whereas, The Chaldean population began immigrating to America
6 during the 1920's for better economic, religious, and political
7 freedom, bringing with them a strong work ethic which continues to
8 positively add to the growth of Michigan through the establishment
9 of 20,000 Chaldean-owned businesses throughout Michigan; and

10 Whereas, The Chaldean community has undoubtedly proven their



1 diligent business skills and entrepreneurial spirit with nearly
2 two-thirds of Chaldean American households owning at least one
3 business and 39 percent owning two or more businesses; and

4 Whereas, The Chaldean community contributes an estimated
5 eleven billion annually to Michigan's economy; and

6 Whereas, The Chaldean American Chamber of Commerce currently
7 has 985 members that represent more than four thousand businesses
8 with goals of building community ties, ensuring membership value
9 and advocacy for the benefit of Chaldean people; and

10 Whereas, The Chaldean Community Foundation has promoted steady
11 population growth by providing services to the newly arrived Iraqi
12 Chaldean refugees in efforts to help refugees become contributing
13 members to Michigan through assistance with housing, job placement,
14 language development, and social and government program directives;
15 now, therefore, be it

16 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
17 this legislative body declare April 11, 2019, as Chaldean American
18 Day in the state of Michigan. We acknowledge the contributions of
19 this innovative and entrepreneurial community as an important part
20 of Michigan's diverse history; and be it further

21 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the
22 Chaldean American Chamber of Commerce and Chaldean Community
23 Foundation as evidence of our highest esteem.