

AS ADOPTED BY SENATE, JANUARY 22, 2020

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 93

Senators LaSata, Lucido, Daley, MacDonald, Lauwers, Bizon, Bumstead, Horn, Wojno, Barrett, Stamas, VanderWall and Schmidt and Santana offered the following resolution:

1       A resolution to recognize January 26-February 1, 2020, as  
2 Catholic Schools Week.

3       Whereas, There are 50,026 students attending 221 Catholic  
4 elementary and high schools throughout our great state; and

5       Whereas, The Constitution of Michigan states that, "Religion,  
6 morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the  
7 happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall  
8 forever be encouraged"; and

9       Whereas, Catholic school parents pay tuition in addition to  
10 supporting public schools through their taxes; and

1       Whereas, Catholic schools comply with the same health, safety,  
2 and general welfare regulations required of public schools; and

3       Whereas, Taking into account Michigan's minimum public school  
4 foundation allowance of \$8,111 per pupil, Catholic schools save  
5 taxpayers in excess of \$407 million in state spending annually; and

6       Whereas, Catholic schools instill a broad, values-based  
7 education, emphasizing the lifelong development of moral,  
8 intellectual, and social values in young people which makes them  
9 responsible citizens of our state and nation; and

10       Whereas, Catholic schools educate many students who are non-  
11 Catholic, many students who are economically disadvantaged, and  
12 identify that a good education remains the best way out of poverty;  
13 and

14       Whereas, With their traditionally high academic standards,  
15 high graduation rates, and commitment to community service,  
16 Catholic schools and their graduates make a positive contribution  
17 to society; and

18       Whereas, January 26-February 1, 2020, has been designated as  
19 Catholic Schools Week, with the theme "Catholic Schools: Learn.  
20 Serve. Lead. Succeed." as denoted by the National Catholic  
21 Educational Association and the United States Conference of  
22 Catholic Bishops; and

23       Whereas, The common good of the state of Michigan is  
24 strengthened through the continued existence of Catholic schools;  
25 and

26       Whereas, Catholic schools seek to form a supporting  
27 partnership with every student's family, while also encouraging the  
28 involvement of parents in the education of their children so that  
29 Catholic schools are part of a solution to form productive lives

1 for future generations; now, therefore, be it

2 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative  
3 body recognize January 26-February 1, 2020, as Catholic Schools  
4 Week; and be it further

5 Resolved, That we support the continued dedication of Catholic  
6 schools across Michigan toward academic excellence as well as the  
7 key role that Catholic schools play in promoting and ensuring a  
8 brighter, stronger future for students; and be it further

9 Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the  
10 Michigan Catholic Conference with our highest esteem.