HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 170

Rep. Huizenga offered the following resolution: 1 A resolution to declare October 2019 as Library Appreciation 2 Month in the state of Michigan. 3 Whereas, The Michigan Library Association (MLA) annually designates the month of October as a statewide observance to 4 celebrate the contributions of Michigan's libraries, librarians, 5 6 and library professionals to their communities and to promote 7 library use and support; and 8 Whereas, Michigan's libraries, including school, public, academic, and special libraries, are vital institutions and dynamic 9 centers of lifelong learning that play a unique role in ensuring 10 the public's right to know and empowering people from all walks of 11 12 life to make informed decisions about the world around them; and

Whereas, Libraries play an integral role as community, 1 educational, and cultural centers that bring together diverse 2 populations and serve as important cornerstones in healthy 3 communities; and 4 Whereas, Libraries have the most recent ideas and information 5 6 available on subjects and are a cost-effective means of providing 7 education, training, and the opportunity for self-improvement to all individuals without regard to age, race, income, or 8 9 socioeconomic background; and 10 Whereas, Libraries serve as a vital connection to the people, 11 places, and ideas of the world through books, magazines, videos, and the Internet and are the primary point of online access for 12 people without computers at home, school, or work; and 13 14 Whereas, Libraries provide indispensable educational resources 15 for children and teenagers, and are on the front lines in the battle against illiteracy, offering plenty of free activities, as 16 17 well as safe, enriching entertainment for the whole family; and 18 Whereas, Librarians and library workers play key roles in helping people explore, imagine, and discover new horizons in the 19 20 vast world of information, knowledge, and entertainment; and Whereas, Two-thirds of adult Americans visit their local 21 22 public libraries annually, with more than a billion visits made 23 each year by adults, and likewise by students to their school 24 libraries; and 25 Whereas, Michigan's libraries play a key role in the statewide 26 and national discourse on intellectual freedom, equity of access, 27 and narrowing the digital divide and are the cornerstone of our 28 democracy; and

Whereas, Thousands of libraries and library supporters across

- 1 Michigan are celebrating Library Appreciation Month this year; now,
- 2 therefore, be it
- 3 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
- 4 this legislative body declare October 2019 as Library Appreciation
- 5 Month in the state of Michigan. We encourage all citizens of
- 6 Michigan to visit their local library and explore the wide variety
- 7 of cultural and educational riches that libraries hold; and be it
- 8 further
- 9 Resolved, That we recognize Michigan's librarians, library
- 10 professionals and supporters for their contributions to enrich
- 11 their communities.