

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 206

Rep. Anthony offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare December 10-17, 2019, as International  
2 Human Rights Week in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, On December 10th, 1948, the United Nations General  
4 Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as an  
5 affirmation of each person's right to life and liberty, freedom  
6 from slavery and torture, freedom of opinion and expression, and  
7 the right to work and education. Throughout the years, the  
8 definition of human rights has expanded to encompass the way we  
9 treat groups who have historically had their rights oppressed and  
10 are now legally protected from discrimination—including women,  
11 children, persons with disabilities, and racial and ethnic  
12 minorities; and

13 Whereas, World leaders for peace, like the United States, have



1 a moral imperative to meet the needs of the most vulnerable,  
2 including victims of human trafficking and forced marriage, and  
3 refugees; and

4       Whereas, Education and workforce development programs are  
5 fundamental components for a stable economic future, especially for  
6 those who are struggling to find their footing and seeking a more  
7 promising future. This week is observed to urge a commitment to  
8 providing each person with the tools they need to pursue and  
9 complete a post-secondary education or skilled trade credential;  
10 and

11       Whereas, By 2020, 65 percent of all jobs will require some  
12 level of postsecondary degree, yet only 44% of Michiganders will  
13 have this credential. This goal is harder to obtain for vulnerable  
14 populations, especially those struggling with barriers posed by  
15 language differences, financial barriers, or the effects of trauma.  
16 Agencies such as the Michigan Office of New American Rights and  
17 Michigan Works! have continually demonstrated this ideal by  
18 offering resettlement and wraparound support services to prepare  
19 Michiganders to participate in the workforce; and

20       Whereas, Through adoption of this resolution, the members of  
21 this body pledge our commitment to equality, justice, and dignity  
22 beyond all differences in culture, religion, opportunity, or race;  
23 now, therefore, be it

24       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
25 this legislative body declare December 10-17, 2019, as  
26 International Human Rights Week in the state of Michigan.