

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.242

Reps. Manoogian, Hammoud, Camilleri, Brenda Carter, Hope, Bolden, Peterson, Tyrone Carter, Hood, Clemente, Stone, Whitsett and Sowerby offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to urge the Congress of the United States and the  
2 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to provide financial  
3 assistance to the state of Michigan and affected residents to  
4 address the novel coronavirus outbreak.

5 Whereas, Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), also commonly  
6 referred to as the novel coronavirus, is a mild to severe  
7 respiratory illness that spreads from person to person. Symptoms  
8 include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Many patients with  
9 the most severe complications have developed pneumonia in both  
10 lungs. Older adults and people with underlying health conditions  
11 have the greatest risk of developing serious illness. The mortality



1 rate appears to be higher than that of influenza; and

2       Whereas, The novel coronavirus was first detected in China but  
3 has spread to nearly 70 locations internationally, including the  
4 United States. The serious threat to public health posed by the  
5 virus led the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services to  
6 declare a public health emergency for the United States. In early  
7 February 2020, the state of Michigan activated the Community Health  
8 Emergency Coordination Center to address the state and local  
9 outbreak response; and

10       Whereas, Coordinating the novel coronavirus outbreak response  
11 is a costly endeavor for the state of Michigan and the entire  
12 country. The first two months of national coronavirus response will  
13 cost an estimated \$25 million. Michigan has already mobilized state  
14 employees and numerous resources to assist local health  
15 departments, distribute guidelines and educational materials, and  
16 screen and investigate potential cases; and

17       Whereas, The cost of testing, treating, and containing the  
18 virus could be steep for affected individuals, particularly among  
19 the 27.5 million uninsured people in the United States. The Centers  
20 for Disease Control and Prevention initially provided free test  
21 kits to public health departments, but testing by hospitals and  
22 private laboratories may not be free. Uninsured or underinsured  
23 patients may be forced to pay thousands of dollars in out-of-pocket  
24 costs for emergency room and urgent care visits, hospital stays,  
25 and tests to rule out other illnesses; and

26       Whereas, The prospect of unaffordable medical bills could  
27 prevent low-income patients from seeking treatment. Avoiding  
28 treatment could increase the risk of the disease spreading; and

29       Whereas, Appropriate federal support for the novel coronavirus



1 outbreak response is imperative to protect the health of Michigan  
2 residents and people across the country; now, therefore, be it

3 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the  
4 Congress of the United States and the Centers for Disease Control  
5 and Prevention to provide financial assistance to the state of  
6 Michigan and affected residents to address the novel coronavirus  
7 outbreak; and be it further

8 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the  
9 President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United  
10 States House of Representatives, the Director of the Centers for  
11 Disease Control and Prevention, and the members of the Michigan  
12 congressional delegation.