

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO.122

Senators Theis and Santana offered the following resolution:

1       A resolution to condemn and denounce the violent activities of  
2 extremist organizations and to memorialize the Congress of the  
3 United States to redouble its efforts to combat the spread of all  
4 forms of domestic terrorism.

5       Whereas, Freedom of Speech and Freedom of the Press are  
6 hallmarks of our First Amendment rights and founding principles of  
7 this great nation. Article I, Section 5 of the *Constitution of the*  
8 *State of Michigan of 1963* reaffirms, "Every person may freely  
9 speak, write, express and publish his views on all subjects, being  
10 responsible for the abuse of such right; and no law shall be  
11 enacted to restrain or abridge the liberty of speech or of the  
12 press."; and

13       Whereas, It is a fundamental responsibility of government to

1 protect citizens thereby creating an environment that allows and  
2 encourages peaceful speech and peaceful protest; and

3       Whereas, Extremist organizations, including Antifa, White  
4 supremacist groups such as Boogaloo, and others, represent  
5 opposition to the democratic ideals of peaceful assembly and free  
6 speech for all. These organizations, because they believe that free  
7 speech is equivalent to violence, have used threats of violence and  
8 online harassment in the pursuit of suppressing opposing political  
9 ideologies; and

10       Whereas, Federal statute defines the term "domestic terrorism"  
11 to mean activities that involve "acts dangerous to human life that  
12 are a violation of the criminal laws of the United States or of any  
13 State and those acts appear to be intended to intimidate or coerce  
14 a civilian population, to influence the policy of a government by  
15 intimidation or coercion, or to affect the conduct of government...";  
16 and

17       Whereas, Extremist organizations, including Antifa and White  
18 supremacist groups such as Boogaloo, and others, have traded civil  
19 protest for violence on multiple occasions, endangering public  
20 welfare and wreaking havoc on cities across America to advance  
21 their political ideologies. These organizations have participated  
22 in attacks on civilians, members of the press, law enforcement, and  
23 our men and women in uniform. Their violence detracts from peaceful  
24 gatherings, endangering individuals using civil protest as a means  
25 of expression; and

26       Whereas, Their use of violence as a means of furthering their  
27 political agenda has been denounced by various leaders and groups  
28 across the political spectrum; and

29       Whereas, There is no place for violence in the discourse

1 between people in a civil society. The use of violence by extremist  
2 organizations represents a significant threat to public safety as  
3 well as the First Amendment rights of all people; now, therefore,  
4 be it

5 Resolved by the Senate, That we unequivocally condemn and  
6 denounce the violent actions of extremist organizations as  
7 unacceptable; and be it further

8 Resolved, That we memorialize the Congress of the United  
9 States to redouble its efforts, using all available and appropriate  
10 tools, to combat the spread of all forms of domestic terrorism; and  
11 be it further

12 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the  
13 President of the United States, the Director of the Federal Bureau  
14 of Investigation, the President of the United States Senate, the  
15 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the chair  
16 and ranking member of the United States House Committee on the  
17 Judiciary, and the members of the Michigan congressional  
18 delegation.