

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO.11

Senator Shirkey offered the following concurrent resolution:

1 A concurrent resolution of tribute offered as a memorial for
2 Willis "Bill" Clare Bullard, Jr., former member of the House of
3 Representatives and the Senate.

4 Whereas, It is with great sorrow that the members of the
5 Michigan Legislature learned about the passing of Bill Bullard. He
6 will be remembered as a dedicated public servant and champion for
7 his constituents in southeast Michigan; and

8 Whereas, Born and raised in Michigan, Bill Bullard received
9 his bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and his law
10 degree from the Detroit College of Law before beginning his long
11 career in public service. An attorney-at-law, he worked as a
12 mediator with the Oakland County Circuit Court and District Courts.
13 He was first elected as a trustee of Highland Township in 1978
14 where he also served on the Zoning Board of Appeals and then was

1 elected supervisor in 1980. He was also very active in his
2 community as a member of the Dunham Lake Civic Committee, Milford
3 Chamber of Commerce, Oakland Chamber of Commerce, Huron Valley
4 Chamber of Commerce, South Lyon Chamber of Commerce, Lake Areas
5 Chamber of Commerce, Novi Chamber of Commerce, West Bloomfield
6 Chamber of Commerce, Farmington Chamber of Commerce, Highland
7 Business Association, University of Michigan Club of Greater
8 Detroit, Huron Valley Arts Council, and West Oakland League of
9 Women Voters; and

10 Whereas, Bill Bullard was first elected to the Michigan House
11 of Representatives in 1982 where he served until he was elected to
12 the Michigan Senate in 1996 during a special election. In the
13 House, he served as Assistant Minority Caucus Chair, Assistant
14 Minority Floor Leader, and chair of the Committee on Taxation. He
15 was also majority vice chair of the committees on Civil Rights and
16 Women's Issues and minority vice chair of the committees on Civil
17 Rights, Public Utilities, and Elections. Additionally, he was a
18 member of the committees on Consumers, Local Government, and
19 Insurance; and

20 Whereas, In the Senate, Bill Bullard served as chair of the
21 committees on Government Operations, Financial Services, and
22 Transportation and Tourism. He served as majority vice chair on the
23 committees on Finance and Hunting, Fishing and Forestry. Also, he
24 was a member of the committees on Education, Health Policy, and
25 Senior Citizens and Judiciary; and

26 Whereas, During this time in office, he also worked with
27 national legislative associations and groups. To each
28 responsibility, Bill Bullard brought an abundant understanding of
29 the process and institutions of government, which allowed him to

1 sponsor over 170 bills that were signed into law. His legislative
2 work did not go unnoticed, as he was awarded legislator of the year
3 by numerous special interest groups, including the Michigan
4 Townships Association, the Michigan Association of Temporary and
5 Staffing Services, the Soft Drink Association of Michigan, and the
6 Michigan Humane Society; and

7 Whereas, Bill Bullard continued his public service after his
8 legislative career. He served on the Oakland County Board of
9 Commissioners from 2003 to 2011 and was chair for three of his
10 terms. Additionally, he served as Oakland County Clerk/Register of
11 Deeds from 2011 to 2012. Following his county public service, he
12 became a partner at Strategic Communications Solutions where he
13 continued to advocate for better government. Most recently in
14 November 2020, he was appointed Deputy Clerk of White Lake
15 Township; and

16 Whereas, Bill Bullard was a determined legislator, admired by
17 his constituents, friends, family, and colleagues. Upon his
18 passing, we offer our condolences to his family and friends. We
19 hope that they may find comfort in the knowledge that the entire
20 community shares in their bereavement, and that the legacy of Bill
21 Bullard's contributions will long continue to enrich our state;
22 now, therefore, be it

23 Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives
24 concurring), That we offer this expression of our highest tribute
25 to honor the memory of Bill Bullard, Jr., a member of the House of
26 Representatives from 1984 to 1996 and the Senate from 1996 to 2002;
27 and be it further

28 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
29 Bullard family as evidence of our lasting esteem for his memory.