

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 30

Senator Shirkey offered the following concurrent resolution:

1 A concurrent resolution of tribute offered as a memorial for
2 John Mowat Jr., former member of the Michigan House of
3 Representatives and Senate.

4 Whereas, It is with great sorrow that the members of this
5 legislative body learned about the passing of John Mowat Jr. He
6 will be remembered as a dedicated public servant and leader who was
7 committed to his constituents in Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, and
8 Washtenaw counties in the Nineteenth and Fortieth Districts; and

9 Whereas, Mr. Mowat was born in Chicago, Illinois. He later
10 moved to Adrian, Michigan, where he spent some of his childhood and
11 graduated from Adrian High School. He received his Bachelor of
12 Science Degree in agriculture from Michigan State University. After
13 serving his country as a member of the Army Air Force during World
14 War II, John Mowat Jr. returned home to join his parents in the

1 family farm where he worked as a fruit grower and marketer. In
2 1969, he was selected as one of the top farmers in Michigan by W.K.
3 Kellogg Foundation. Additionally, he served his community in many
4 volunteer positions including President of the Madison School
5 Board, President of Michigan Certified Farm Markets, and member of
6 the Adrian Chamber of Commerce, Lenawee County Farm Bureau,
7 Michigan Horticultural Society, Michigan Agricultural Conference,
8 Michigan Peach Council, Lenawee County Youth Home Board, and Boy
9 Scouts of America; and

10 Whereas, John Mowat Jr. served 11 years as a legislator.
11 Elected first to the House of Representatives in 1970, John Mowat
12 Jr. served on committees on Education; Constitutional Revision and
13 Women's Rights; Public Utilities; and as Minority Vice Chair of
14 Social Services and Corrections; Youth and Student Participation;
15 and Drainage. Elected to the Senate in 1979, he served as a member
16 of the committees on Education; Health and Social Services; Senate
17 Administration and Rules; and Labor and Retirement. He showed
18 exceptional leadership in both chambers as the Elected Assistant
19 Republican Leader during the 1974 and 1976 sessions and as the
20 Republican Caucus Chairman as a Senator during the 1979 session;
21 and

22 Whereas, In addition to his responsibilities as a legislator
23 and farmer, John Mowat Jr. continued to be involved in his
24 community in a variety of capacities throughout his life. After
25 leaving public office, John Mowat Jr. served as Executive Director
26 for the Republican Party in the Michigan House of Representatives
27 for nearly 10 years. He also volunteered for Habitat for Humanity
28 in North Carolina. His knowledge and expertise stood out to all who
29 knew him; and

1 Whereas, John Mowat Jr.'s legacy is an example of how we as
2 public servants can apply our knowledge and expertise for the
3 betterment of the state of Michigan. Committed to sound public
4 policy and willing to be vocal about what he believed, he served
5 dutifully in the Legislature and his community while remaining
6 devoted to his family. In 1982, he decided to not seek re-election
7 so he could return to the family and the family farm. He cherished
8 his wife and three sons most of all; now, therefore, be it

9 Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives
10 concurring), That we offer this expression of our highest tribute
11 to honor the memory of John Mowat Jr., a member of the Michigan
12 Legislature from 1971 to 1982; and be it further

13 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
14 Mowat family as evidence of our lasting esteem for his memory.