

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 37

Senator Shirkey offered the following concurrent resolution:

1 A concurrent resolution offered as a memorial for Vincent
2 Gregory, former member of the Michigan House of Representatives and
3 Senate.

4 Whereas, It was with great sorrow that the members of the
5 Michigan Legislature learned about the passing of Vincent Gregory.
6 He will be remembered as a dedicated public servant and leader who
7 was committed to his constituents in Oakland county in the Eleventh
8 and Fourteenth Senate districts, and the Thirty-fifth House
9 District; and

10 Whereas, Vincent Gregory was born in Detroit, Michigan. He
11 graduated from Dundee High School and went on to serve in the
12 Marine Corps in Vietnam, earning the rank of Corporal. After his
13 service in the Marine Corps, Vincent Gregory built a career in law
14 enforcement with the Wayne County Sheriff's Department for 30

1 years, achieving the ranks of corporal and detective. He was also
2 elected as vice president, and later president, of Wayne County
3 Sheriff's Local 502 Service Employees International Union, American
4 Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations. In
5 1998, Vincent Gregory won a special election for the Oakland County
6 Commissioner of the Twenty-first District and held that position
7 for 10 years. As Commissioner, Vincent Gregory served as the vice
8 chair of the Airport Committee and Democratic Commission Caucus,
9 the minority vice chair of the Finance and Personnel committees,
10 and a member of the committees on General Government, Public
11 Service, Planning and Building, and Parks and Recreation. In 2007,
12 he accomplished a long-time goal to finish his education by
13 completing the Return to Work Program at Madonna University,
14 earning a bachelor's of science degree in criminal justice; and

15 Whereas, Vincent Gregory was first elected to the House of
16 Representatives in 2008, where he served one term. During his time
17 in the House, he served as associate whip. Also, he served on the
18 Appropriations Committee, including serving as vice chair of the
19 Higher Education Subcommittee and serving on the subcommittees of
20 Community Health; Human Services; and Investigations,
21 Intergovernmental Affairs and Oversight. Vincent Gregory was then
22 elected to the Senate where he served as vice chair of the
23 committees on Families, Seniors and Human Services; and the
24 Veterans, Military Affairs and Homeland Security, and minority vice
25 chair of the Appropriations Committee and Appropriations
26 subcommittees on Community Health, Department of Human Services,
27 State Police and Military Affairs, Capital Outlay, Corrections, and
28 Oversight. Vincent Gregory was also a member of the Michigan Law
29 Review Commission, the Legislative Retirement Board of Trustees,

1 and the Senate Fiscal Agency Board of Governors. Because of his
2 hard work and dedication to serving others, Vincent Gregory's
3 colleagues in the Senate Democratic Caucus elected him to serve as
4 assistant minority caucus chair. During his tenure, his extensive
5 experience with law enforcement, local government, and labor
6 issues, as well as his military background, proved to be valuable
7 assets to the Legislature. He dedicated a lifetime of service to
8 the public, and as a member of the Michigan Legislature, worked to
9 advance the concerns of veterans and vulnerable populations around
10 the state. Bipartisan relationships were important to him, and he
11 partnered with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to expand
12 Medicaid, invest in infrastructure improvements, and provide
13 important services to victims of human trafficking. Improving the
14 quality of lives of Michigan's citizens was his priority. His
15 colleagues remember him as a kind, generous, and dedicated public
16 servant. After retiring from public office, he remained dedicated
17 to the people of Michigan by serving on the Judson Center's board
18 of directors and assisting, mentoring, and supporting candidates in
19 their pursuit for political office. Vincent Gregory was appointed
20 by the Governor to serve on the State Officers Compensation
21 Commission; and

22 Whereas, Vincent Gregory is survived by his wife of 44 years,
23 Yvonne, with whom he raised six children in the greater Detroit
24 area. His family described him as a man of great integrity,
25 optimism, strength, generosity, compassion, dedication, and an
26 authentic man of faith; now, therefore, be it

27 Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives
28 concurring), That we offer this expression of our highest tribute
29 to honor the memory of Vincent Gregory, a member of the House of

- 1 Representatives from 2009 to 2010 and the Senate from 2011 to 2018;
- 2 and be it further
- 3 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
- 4 Gregory family as evidence of our lasting esteem for his memory.