

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.303

Reps. Peterson, Haadsma, Morse, Rogers, Sabo, Weiss and Witwer offered the following resolution:

1           A resolution to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the  
2 McDonald's Restaurants Black Owners Association.

3           Whereas, The National Black McDonald's Operators Association  
4 is committed to helping African American communities by providing  
5 educational resources, promoting tolerance and acceptance, and  
6 empowering the people they serve throughout the state and local  
7 chapters of Black McDonald's Operator Associations; and

8           Whereas, The National Black McDonald's Operators Association  
9 encompasses over 200 independent Black franchisees from around the  
10 country; and

11           Whereas, The Black operators of the Michigan Operators  
12 Business Association encompasses 14 independent Black franchisees.

1 These members have over 70 restaurants (more than 15 are located in  
2 densely populated Black communities) which employ over 2,800  
3 employees. Current Black operators are Stephen Blackwood, Tina  
4 Brundidge, Jon Campbell, Sr., Sam Cox, Steven Hogwood, Dr. William  
5 Pickard, Sonja Shields, Maureen Smith, James Thrower II, Joni  
6 Thrower-Davis, Marla Thrower, Artie Vann, Monique Vann-Brown, and  
7 Carl Wiseman; and

8       Whereas, The Black operators of the Michigan Operators  
9 Business Association are committed participants across Michigan  
10 throughout the year, sponsoring and being active in our communities  
11 like the longstanding Turkey Family Giveaway, Celebrating Black  
12 History Makers of Today student scholarship program, Breakfast with  
13 Black Santa special events, youth initiatives to promote reading  
14 and back-to-school drives/attendance, programs of appreciation for  
15 public safety and health care workers, parks and recreation, youth  
16 career development, job and opportunity fairs, arts, culture and  
17 music community festivals, city neighborhood resource and safety  
18 community events; and

19       Whereas, The meaningful efforts of the Black McDonald's  
20 Operators throughout Michigan engage our local neighborhoods and  
21 embody the true spirit of family and community; and

22       Whereas, On December 21, 1968, Herman Petty of Chicago opened  
23 his first restaurant on Chicago's South Side at 6500 South Stony  
24 Island Avenue, Chicago, making him the first African American  
25 McDonald's franchisee; and

26       Whereas, McDonald's partnership with Herman Petty opened the  
27 doors and gave hope to a generation of ambitious African American  
28 businessmen and women seeking a piece of the American Dream. By the  
29 end of 1969, there were twelve African American owned and operated

1 McDonald's restaurants, mostly located in the Midwest; and

2       Whereas, The sharing of ideas, problems, and concerns amongst  
3 owner/operators eventually led to the formation of the National  
4 Black McDonald's Operators Association in 1972; and

5       Whereas, The founding members of the National Black McDonald's  
6 Operators Association who attended the first organized convention  
7 of the organization in May 1972 presided over by Herman Petty, who  
8 had the foresight to see the need for such an organization were:  
9 Sherman Claypool of Milwaukee, Wayne Embry of Milwaukee, Andrew  
10 Davis of Chicago, John Perry of Chicago, Mallory Jones of St.  
11 Louis, Noel White of Chicago, Lester Hairston of Chicago, Cloris  
12 Dale of Kansas City, Andrew Murrell of Kansas City, Walter  
13 Pitchford of Chicago, Benjamin Davis of St. Louis, and Edward Wimp  
14 of Chicago; and

15       Whereas, The tenacity and courage of these African American  
16 entrepreneurs and pioneers laid the foundation for what has become  
17 the most successful group of African American entrepreneurs in the  
18 United States today and has paved the way for the National Black  
19 McDonald's Operators Association to be partners and leaders,  
20 dedicated to providing resources across their communities in an  
21 effort to help build stronger neighborhoods; and

22       Whereas, In May of 2022, the National Black McDonald's  
23 Operators Association will celebrate it's 50-year anniversary; now,  
24 therefore, be it

25       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
26 this legislative body commemorate the 50th anniversary of the  
27 McDonald's Restaurants Black Owners Association. We express our  
28 gratitude to the Michigan Operators that are members of the  
29 National Black McDonald's Operators Association for their continued

1 service to the state of Michigan, our youth, and our communities;  
2 and be it further

3       Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be prepared and  
4 presented to each of the Black operators of the Michigan Operators  
5 Business Association.