

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 340

Reps. Harris, Breen, Garza, Haadsma, Hope, Cynthia Johnson, Kuppa, Manoogian, Morse, Rogers and Sneller offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare September 2022 as Big Brothers Big
2 Sisters Youth Mentoring Month in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, There are thousands of children living in poverty
4 throughout the state of Michigan; and

5 Whereas, Growing up in poverty and experiencing other adverse
6 childhood experiences significantly reduces a child's chances for
7 success; and

8 Whereas, Children thrive when under the influence of a one-to-
9 one mentoring relationship with an adult; and

10 Whereas, Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies have helped

1 hundreds of thousands of young people successfully navigate life's
2 challenges and achieve success through fostering one-to-one
3 mentoring relationships since its founding in 1904; and

4 Whereas, The need for mentoring relationships continues to
5 grow statewide, with statistics showing a need for thousands of
6 youth in need of adult mentors; and

7 Whereas, Volunteer mentors provide their mentees with a safe
8 place and support network to help at-risk youth reach their full
9 potential; and

10 Whereas, The Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies in the state of
11 Michigan have recently formed the Big Brothers Big Sisters Alliance
12 of Michigan to increase resources and create opportunities that
13 sustain and grow program services across the state; and

14 Whereas, Youth with mentors are less likely to skip school,
15 use alcohol and drugs, drop out of school, and are more likely to
16 reach a higher level of education, be financially literate, find a
17 full-time job or career, volunteer in the community, and lead a
18 healthy lifestyle; and

19 Whereas, The Big Brothers Big Sisters Alliance of Michigan
20 believes in changing outcomes for Michigan's at-risk youth and
21 reversing the downward spiral brought on by poverty and adverse
22 childhood experiences by fostering one-to-one mentoring
23 relationships, and

24 Whereas, The House of Representatives is committed to helping
25 Michigan's children find success throughout their academics and
26 careers; now, therefore, be it

27 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That members of the
28 legislative body declare September 2022 as Big Brothers Big Sisters
29 Youth Mentoring Month in the state of Michigan.