

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 103

Senators LaSata, Lauwers, Wozniak, Daley, Wojno, Bizon, Horn, Huizenga, Barrett, MacDonald, Johnson, Theis, Hertel, VanderWall, Schmidt and Stamas offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to recognize January 30-February 5, 2022, as
2 Catholic Schools Week.

3 Whereas, There are 47,842 students attending 215 Catholic
4 elementary and high schools throughout our great state; and

5 Whereas, The Constitution of Michigan states that, "Religion,
6 morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the
7 happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall
8 forever be encouraged"; and

9 Whereas, Catholic school parents pay tuition in addition to
10 supporting their local public schools through their taxes; and

1 Whereas, Catholic schools comply with the same health, safety,
2 and general welfare regulations required of public schools; and

3 Whereas, Taking into account Michigan's minimum public school
4 foundation allowance of \$8,700 per pupil, Catholic schools save
5 taxpayers more than \$416 million in state spending annually; and

6 Whereas, Catholic schools instill a broad, values-based
7 education, emphasizing the lifelong development of moral,
8 intellectual, and social values in young people, making them
9 responsible citizens of our state and nation; and

10 Whereas, Catholic schools educate many students who are non-
11 Catholic and economically disadvantaged, identifying that a good
12 education remains the single best way out of poverty; and

13 Whereas, With traditionally high academic standards, high
14 graduation rates, and commitment to community service, Catholic
15 schools and their graduates make a positive contribution to
16 society; and

17 Whereas, January 30-February 5, 2022, has been designated as
18 Catholic Schools Week, with the theme "Catholic Schools: Faith.
19 Excellence. Service." as denoted by the National Catholic
20 Educational Association and the United States Conference of
21 Catholic Bishops; and

22 Whereas, The common good of the state of Michigan is
23 strengthened through the continued existence of Catholic schools;
24 and

25 Whereas, Catholic schools are committed to producing graduates
26 who hold community service and "helping others" among their core
27 values; and

28 Whereas, Catholic schools create a supportive partnership with
29 each student's family, while also encouraging parental involvement

1 in their children's education, so that Catholic students form
2 productive lives that benefit future generations; now, therefore,
3 be it

4 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
5 body recognize January 30-February 5, 2022, as Catholic Schools
6 Week; and be it further

7 Resolved, That we support the continued dedication of Catholic
8 schools across Michigan toward academic excellence and the key role
9 Catholic schools play in promoting and ensuring a brighter,
10 stronger future for students; and be it further

11 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the
12 Michigan Catholic Conference with our highest esteem.