

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 340

Rep. Harris 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
11 hundreds of thousands of young people successfully navigate life's
12 challenges and achieve success through fostering one-to-one

1 mentoring relationships since its founding in 1904; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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