

SENATE RESOLUTION NO.4

Senators Geiss and Hollier offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to censure Senators John Bizon, Tom Barrett,
2 Kevin Daley, Kim LaSata, Dan Lauwers, Rick Outman, Jim Runestad,
3 Lana Theis, Curt VanderWall, Roger Victory, and Dale Zorn and
4 condemn their efforts to undermine American elections.

5 Whereas, On January 4, 2021, Senators John Bizon, Tom Barrett,
6 Kevin Daley, Kim LaSata, Dan Lauwers, Rick Outman, Jim Runestad,
7 Lana Theis, Curt VanderWall, Roger Victory, and Dale Zorn submitted
8 a letter to Congress and the Vice President of the United States to
9 request that the Joint Session of Congress investigate the
10 credibility of the November election results; and

11 Whereas, In signing this letter, the Senators actively fueled
12 baseless claims of election fraud, which have been universally
13 debunked and disproven. They have undercut faith in our

1 institutions through their blatantly unjustified dismissal of the
2 security and accuracy of election outcomes in Michigan and other
3 states; and

4 Whereas, In calling on Congress to investigate the credibility
5 of the November 2020 election in this manner, the Senators who
6 signed the request were asking members of Congress to obstruct the
7 peaceful and orderly transition of power. Congress' role in
8 counting the Electoral College votes is ministerial under the U.S.
9 Constitution and federal law; and

10 Whereas, The Senators contributed to the atmosphere that led
11 to the violent insurrection at the U.S. Capitol during the
12 Electoral College vote count on January 6, 2021. The Senators'
13 letter was part of a broader and dangerous campaign to overturn the
14 will of the American people. The riot at the U.S. Capitol resulted
15 in physical and emotional injury, caused significant destruction of
16 public property, led to a shaken the faith in the stability of our
17 democracy at home, and dealt an enormous blow to the nation's
18 reputation abroad. The months-long effort to delegitimize the
19 election has also distracted from the important work of responding
20 to the COVID-19 Pandemic and taken important resources and
21 attention away from our state's efforts to combat this public
22 health crisis; and

23 Whereas, Article XI, Section 1 of the *Constitution of the*
24 *State of Michigan of 1963* provides:

25 All officers, legislative, executive and judicial, before
26 entering upon the duties of their respective offices, shall
27 take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation: I do
28 solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the
29 Constitution of the United States and the constitution of

1 this state, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties
2 of the office of according to the best of my
3 ability. No other oath, affirmation, or any religious test
4 shall be required as a qualification for any office or
5 public trust.

6 ; and

7 Whereas, Rule 1.301 of the Standing Rules of the Senate
8 provides:

9 Each Senator shall conduct himself or herself to justify
10 the confidence placed in him or her by the people and
11 shall, by personal example and admonition to colleagues,
12 maintain the integrity and responsibility of his or her
13 office.

14 ; and

15 Whereas, Rules 1.311 of the Standing Rules of the Senate
16 provides, in part:

17 A Senator determined to have violated the provisions of
18 the rules regulating ethics and conduct may be reprimanded,
19 censured, or expelled.

20 ; and

21 Whereas, Senators Bizon, Barrett, Daley, LaSata, Lauwers,
22 Outman, Runestad, Theis, VanderWall, Victory, and Zorn failed to
23 meet the high standards of conduct expected of their office by the
24 people of Michigan. Their participation in efforts to undermine the
25 democratic process are clear violations of their oaths of office
26 and the Standing Rules of the Senate; and

27 Whereas, This legislative body must send a clear signal that
28 efforts to undermine the democratic process and obstruct the will
29 of the American people through baseless and disproven allegations

1 of fraud are wholly unacceptable and should be met with the
2 strongest possible condemnation; now, therefore, be it

3 Resolved by the Senate, That Senator John Bizon of the
4 Nineteenth Senate District; Senator Tom Barrett of the Twenty-
5 fourth Senate District; Senator Kevin Daley of the Thirty-first
6 Senate District; Senator Kim LaSata of the Twenty-first Senate
7 District; Senator Dan Lauwers of the Twenty-fifth Senate District;
8 Senator Rick Outman of the Thirty-third Senate District; Senator
9 Jim Runestad of the Fifteenth Senate District; Senator Lana Theis
10 of the Twenty-second Senate District; Senator Curt VanderWall of
11 the Thirty-fifth Senate District; Senator Roger Victory of the
12 Thirtieth Senate District; and Senator Dale Zorn of the Seventeenth
13 Senate District are hereby censured; and be it further

14 Resolved, That we condemn their efforts to undermine American
15 elections; and be it further

16 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
17 Senators Bizon, Barrett, Daley, LaSata, Lauwers, Outman, Runestad,
18 Theis, VanderWall, Victory, and Zorn.