

## SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 87

Senators Geiss, Chang, Bullock, Bayer, Wojno, Moss and Alexander offered the following resolution:

1           A resolution to urge the Centers for Disease Control and  
2   Prevention (CDC) to rescind the order issued under the authority of  
3   Title 42 of the United States Code, and, until the order is  
4   rescinded, ask the Department of Homeland Security to refrain from  
5   using the order to expel refugees and asylum seekers.

6           Whereas, The humanitarian crisis in Haiti has been and remains  
7   of grave concern because of the compounded tragedies of violence,  
8   political upheaval, and natural disasters. Specifically, the murder  
9   of the Haitian President and the continued devastation from  
10   Hurricane Henri threaten the safety and well-being of Haitian  
11   citizens; and

12          Whereas, The United States allows asylum seekers the right to

1 seek asylum upon arrival in the United States, even if they arrive  
2 without inspection or prior authorization, in order to ensure that  
3 people who need protection are not dangerously expelled. However,  
4 as a response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Centers for Disease  
5 Control and Prevention issued an order in March of 2020 suspending  
6 the right to introduce certain persons into the United States from  
7 countries where a quarantinable communicable disease exists, citing  
8 the authority of Title 42 of the Public Health Service Act of 1944;  
9 and

10       Whereas, While the order states that it is meant to avoid  
11 holding migrants in congregate settings for public health reasons,  
12 it is being used to expel migrants after they have spent long  
13 periods in congregate settings. Therefore, the order not only fails  
14 to protect public health, but it also seriously endangers the lives  
15 of those in need of protection, who are returned to dangerous  
16 conditions in their country of origin or border cities; and

17       Whereas, The United States has a long-held policy of welcoming  
18 immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers as is invoked by the words  
19 in the Lazarus poem *The New Colossus* at the base of the Statue of  
20 Liberty; and

21       Whereas, As an economic power geographically closest to Haiti,  
22 we should be re-establishing ourselves as a global power rooted in  
23 kindness, humanitarian love, and justice; and

24       Whereas, All migrants must be treated humanely and with  
25 respect in all encounters both inside congregate settings and at  
26 all United States borders; now, therefore, be it

27       Resolved, That we urge the CDC to rescind the order that cites  
28 the authority of Title 42 of the USC; and be it further

29       Resolved, That, until the order is rescinded, we ask the

1 Department of Homeland Security to refrain from using the order to  
2 expel refugees and asylum seekers; and be it further

3 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the  
4 President of the United States, the President of the United States  
5 Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,  
6 and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.