

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 127

Reps. Young, Scott, Myers-Phillips, Miller, O'Neal, Neeley, Brixie, Weiss, McKinney, Edwards, T. Carter, Tate, Paiz, Tsernoglou, Grant, Snyder, Wooden, Liberati, Herzberg, Byrnes, Wegela, Wilson, Rogers, B. Carter, Dievendorf, McFall, Morgan, Price, Hoskins, Coffia, Arbit, Longjohn, Koleszar, Xiong, Rheingans, MacDonell, Martus, Hope, Pohutsky, Glanville, Farhat, Puri, Foreman and Breen offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution urging the United States Department of Labor to
2 reverse its decision to pause operations at Job Corps centers
3 across the country and specifically in Detroit.

4 Whereas, The Job Corps is a federally funded residential
5 career training program that has been around for more than 60
6 years, helping disadvantaged young people ages 16 to 24 to finish
7 high school and obtain gainful employment. Established in 1964 as
8 part of President Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty, Job Corps has

1 been one of the most successful federal workforce development
2 programs in our nation's history. For over six decades, it has
3 prepared millions of young Americans—particularly those from low-
4 income or disconnected backgrounds—for careers that offer economic
5 stability and upward mobility; and

6 Whereas, Nationwide, about 25,000 youths are currently
7 enrolled across 99 contract-operated Job Corps centers. The most
8 recent detailed analysis of Job Corps participation from 2023
9 showed that 760 students from Michigan were enrolled in the
10 program, with 321 in Detroit, 231 in Flint, and 208 in Grand
11 Rapids; and

12 Whereas, Throughout Job Corps' history, disadvantaged youth in
13 Michigan have been given a second chance at becoming productive
14 citizens through training programs in healthcare, construction, and
15 technology. The Detroit Job Corps Center, specifically, has also
16 provided wraparound services, including mental health support and
17 housing, ensuring that young Detroiters have the resources they
18 need to succeed; and

19 Whereas, On May 29th, the United States Department of Labor
20 announced that all operations at Job Corps locations would pause by
21 June 30, 2025. Despite being labeled merely as a "phased pause in
22 operations," Job Corps participants across Michigan were reportedly
23 instructed to leave centers immediately. For example, on May 30,
24 just one day after the announced pause, all 217 program
25 participants living at the Detroit Job Corps Center were reportedly
26 told that it was their last day at the center and that they would
27 have to make arrangements to leave immediately. The youth were
28 given garbage bags to collect all of their belongings and were
29 walked out of the building; and

1 Whereas, The sudden, rash decision to dismantle this lifeline
2 to employment and empowerment for Detroit youth is tragic and
3 miscalculated. At this time, the disruption and shutting down of
4 the Detroit Job Corps Center have reportedly already thrust at
5 least six of the 217 youth into homelessness, forcing them into
6 various shelters around the city; and

7 Whereas, Defunding the Job Corps program unravels decades of
8 investment in both our country's future and in the futures of the
9 people who are committed to building it. The consequences of this
10 decision will be long-lasting; not only for the youth it serves,
11 but for greater Detroit and the surrounding communities that rely
12 on their skills and contributions; now, therefore, be it

13 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the
14 United States Department of Labor to reverse its decision to pause
15 operations at Job Corps centers across the country and specifically
16 in Detroit; and be it further

17 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
18 Secretary of the United States Department of Labor.