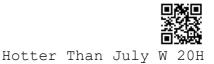
HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.287

Reps. Love, Kuppa, Elder, Hertel, Brixie, Ellison, Hood, Hoadley, Anthony, Cynthia Johnson, Brenda Carter and Wittenberg offered the following resolution:

A resolution to declare July 21-26, 2020, as Hotter Than July
 Week in the state of Michigan on the occasion of the 25th
 anniversary of the founding of the event to celebrate and bring
 awareness of the black LGBTQ community.

5 Whereas, At the height of the AIDS/HIV pandemic in the 1990's, 6 information was scarce and paranoia and prejudice were high. In 7 1994, Curtis Lipscomb returned home to Detroit from New York to 8 form Kick Publishing Company to provide vital information and 9 awareness to the LGBTQ community in the middle of the pandemic. It 10 is only the third black American LGBTQ media company created in the 11 country; and



Whereas, The following year in 1995, Lipscomb, the executive
 director of LGBT Detroit, and a group of friends that included
 Johnny Jenkins and other Detroit area LGBT organizations formed
 Hotter than July to celebrate black gay pride; and

5 Whereas, Prior to 1995, organizers had marshalled busses to 6 travel to the Washington, D.C. event. They hatched the idea of 7 creating a uniquely Detroit event and succeeded beyond all 8 expectations; and

9 Whereas, Hotter than July has continued to thrive and its
10 proudly chains the title as the world's second oldest black LGBTQ
11 pride event, second only to Washington, D.C.; and

Whereas, Last year, more than 9,000 people were in attendance at the 2019 Palmer Park Picnic; and

14 Whereas, Hotter than July is much more than just a 15 celebration. It has evolved into a week-long social justice rally 16 that creates a multidimensional forum to advocate for equality and 17 justice; and

18 Whereas, After 25 years, Hotter than July finds itself in the 19 middle of another pandemic. On its 25th anniversary, Detroit Black 20 PRIDE, the nation's second oldest behind Washington, D.C. and a 21 founding member of Center for Black Equity, is working with local 22 healthcare professionals to implement COVID-19 testing, in addition 23 to testing for HIV and AIDS; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare July 21-26, 2020, as Hotter Than July Week in the state of Michigan on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the event to celebrate and bring awareness of the black LGBTQ community; and be it further Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to

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1 LGBT Detroit.