MICHIGAN SENATE

Senate Resolution No. 187

Offered by Senators Shirkey, Ananich, Alexander, Barrett, Bayer, Bizon, Brinks, Bullock, Bumstead, Chang, Daley, Geiss, Hertel, Hollier, Horn, Huizenga, Irwin, Johnson, LaSata, Lauwers, MacDonald, McBroom, McCann, McMorrow, Moss, Nesbitt, Outman, Polehanki, Runestad, Santana, Schmidt, Stamas, Theis, VanderWall, Victory, Wojno, Wozniak, Zorn and Lieutenant Governor Gilchrist II

A RESOLUTION OF TRIBUTE FOR THE HONORABLE JIM ANANICH

WHEREAS, It is a distinct honor to recognize Senator Jim Ananich as he retires from this chamber. A longtime statesman, Senator Ananich has served the people of the Twenty-seventh District, including his hometown of Flint, with dignity and respect. His leadership has bettered the lives of his constituents and all Michiganians. Senator Ananich is a dedicated husband to his wife, Andrea, and a loving father to his son, Jacob; and

WHEREAS, Senator Ananich is an expert in governing by education and by trade. He earned a bachelor's degree in political economics and a secondary education certificate in social studies from Michigan State University; he additionally earned a master's degree in public administration from the University of Michigan-Flint. Public service was an important lesson passed on to Senator Ananich by his father. He began his professional career working as a staffer for Senate Minority Leader John D. Cherry, Jr., Senate Minority Leader Bob Emerson, and Congressman Dale Kildee. In 2005, he successfully won election to the Flint City Council, where he served until 2009 and was elected president for his final year. Senator Ananich spent time as a civics and government teacher at Carman-Ainsworth and Flint Community Schools and also worked as an education coordinator for Priority Children. Transitioning to serve the state at large, Senator Ananich was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 2010 and 2012; and

WHEREAS, Since his special election to the Senate in 2013, Senator Ananich has served on numerous committees, including as minority vice chair of the committees on Banking and Financial Institutions, Government Operations, and Agriculture and as a member of the committees on Economic Development, Health Policy, Transportation, and Insurance. Senator Ananich also advocated for his district as a member of the Joint Select Committee on the Flint Water Public Health Emergency. In addition, he served on the Legislative Council and the Board of Governors for the Senate Fiscal Agency; and

WHEREAS, Senator Ananich earned the respect of his caucus colleagues, as evidenced by his two-time election as Senate Minority Leader, serving for eight years, from 2015 to 2022. During his legislative tenure, he spearheaded initiatives to improve the health and safety of his constituents, protect seniors with the successful passage of elder abuse legislation, and help students pursue higher education. He sponsored successful legislation to fund the settlement of the Flint water crisis and enable the city of Flint to be designated as a promise zone, which allows high school graduates to receive financial assistance for post-secondary education. Senator Ananich also sponsored laws to help those suffering from mental illness or addiction, a further testament to his comprehensive approach to bettering the lives of Michiganians everywhere. While he was often seen as a quiet presence, it was well known he was a person of strength, embodied an infectious sense of humor, and held deep affection for those around him; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That we offer this expression of tribute to commend and thank the Honorable Jim Ananich for his notable contributions to this legislative body and to our state; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to Senator Ananich as evidence of our gratitude and best wishes.

Adopted by the Senate, December 7, 2022.

Secretary of the Senate