

The Speaker, on behalf of the entire membership of the House of Representatives, offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 225.

A resolution of tribute offered as a memorial for Justine Barns, former member of the House of Representatives.

Whereas, The members and staff of this legislative body, as well as the people of her beloved Westland, were saddened to learn of the passing of Justine Barns. As a legislator and lifelong advocate for her community, Justine Barns contributed enormously to the lives of others, and the example of her activism and commitment will long enrich our state; and

Whereas, The path of Justine Barns's life of service was a study in how a heartfelt community spirit can change lives. Her involvement in her neighborhood school and the PTA years ago launched more than 40 years of dedication at the local, county, and state levels of government. She became one of the leaders in the establishment of the city of Westland through her work on the city charter commission and her distinguished service on the Westland City Council. In this post, as with many others, she blazed a trail for other women in public service to follow; and

Whereas, In 1983, after having also served on the Wayne County Charter Commission, Justine Barns brought her problem solving skills and deep understanding of local government to Lansing as a state representative. In her 6 terms, she earned the respect of her colleagues as an effective advocate for her district and our entire state. For many years the chair of the House Senior Citizens Committee, she also was a member of the Education Committee during the historic shared power legislature of 1993-94. Even after retiring from her legislative career, she returned to local government and was elected to the Westland City Council; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we offer this expression of our highest tribute to honor the memory of Justine Barns, a member of this legislative body from 1983 to 1994; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Barns family as evidence of our lasting esteem for her memory.