Reps. Schor, Brown, Darany, Durhal, Geiss, Kelly, Lori, Singh, Slavens and Talabi offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 163.

A resolution to declare October 2013 as Microenterprise Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Microbusinesses, small businesses with five or fewer employees, comprise over 17 percent of Michigan's employment and provide jobs for 969,584 people; and

Whereas, Microenterprise development produces employment and business opportunities through all economic cycles, growing from 678,230 to 760,728 total microbusinesses in Michigan between 2002 and 2008 ; and

Whereas, Women entrepreneurs make up 69 percent of those benefiting from microenterprise development in Michigan; and

Whereas, Michigan recognizes that microbusinesses stabilize the economies of Michigan communities by providing local ownership and homegrown products and services; and

Whereas, Michigan recognizes that microenterprise training propels people out of poverty and into economic growth; and

Whereas, Michigan recognizes the contributions of microentrepreneurs who come from diverse cultures and backgrounds to live the American dream of owning their own businesses; and

Whereas, Michigan treasures the social, economic, and environmental contributions of its microbusinesses; and

Whereas, Michigan recognizes the importance of development, training, business counseling, and accessible credit to the success of microbusinesses; and

Whereas, Microenterprise development is an essential component of every community hoping to inspire and promote entrepreneurship; and

Whereas, Michigan communities can stimulate growth and successful entrepreneurship by fostering microenterprise development and by working together to promote outreach, advocacy, and education encouraging the growth of microenterprise opportunities for Michigan citizens; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare October 2013 as Microenterprise Month in the state of Michigan.