

Rep. Kivela offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 256.

A resolution to urge the U.S. Army to continue the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program at Northern Michigan University.

Whereas, Since 1969, the Northern Michigan University (NMU) Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program has provided unique leadership training and management experience to our nation's future Army officers. Students are given an opportunity to earn a college degree and an Army officer's commission upon graduation from NMU. The ROTC experience at NMU helps students develop self-discipline, courage, integrity, and physical stamina; and

Whereas, NMU has graduated nearly 400 students from its military science/ROTC program. Currently, sixty-five cadets are active in the program. This past summer, eleven active cadets participated in professional development opportunities and another eleven attended the Leader Development and Assessment Course or Army schools, such as Airborne or Air Assault. It was the largest number of summer training seats NMU cadets have ever earned; and

Whereas, NMU's program serves both U.S. Army and Michigan National Guard cadets and receives funding from the Michigan Guard Assistance program. NMU, the largest university located in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, offers one of the lowest tuition rates in the state, making its Army ROTC program one of the most affordable for prospective officer candidates. The university provides training facilities at little to no cost to the Army ROTC program; and

Whereas, The U.S. Army has notified NMU that its ROTC program will be one of 13 eliminated nationwide in May 2015. There are currently 273 ROTC programs in the country, with two located at universities in the Upper Peninsula. Another five are available in the rest of the state. Closing the NMU ROTC program will adversely affect high school students from Michigan's Upper Peninsula and Northern Wisconsin who desire to serve their nation as commissioned officers in the U.S. Army; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the U.S. Army to continue the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps program at Northern Michigan University; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the United States Secretary of the Army, the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Cadet Command, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.