

Senator Casperson offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 85.

A resolution honoring Carl “Buck” Nystrom, a native and resident of Marquette, for his distinguished accomplishments in athletics, teaching, coaching, and community service.

Whereas, Born in Marquette in 1933, Buck Nystrom built an impressive athletic career at Marquette High School, where he still holds the record for varsity letters, having earned 13 in five sports, including football, basketball, baseball, tennis, and track; and

Whereas, As a walk-on for the Michigan State University (MSU) Football Team, Buck was named First Team All-American and Academic All-American on the legendary Biggie Munn/Duffy Daugherty MSU Rose Bowl teams of the 1950s and also earned a letter in hockey at MSU; and

Whereas, After becoming distinguished as a legendary football player, Buck coached at numerous universities, including MSU and Northern Michigan University (NMU), being most known for his skills as an offensive line coach who was part of five national championship and 15 bowl teams either as a player or coach, including two national championships at MSU in the 1950s and the 1975 Division II National Championship at NMU; and

Whereas, Former Oklahoma, Colorado, and New England Patriots Head Coach Chuck Fairbanks called Buck the greatest college offensive line coach of all time. Buck is nationally famous within coaching circles for his intensity, motivational techniques, and colorful manner of speech as recognized in publications such as *Sports Illustrated*; and

Whereas, Buck is well-known as the creator of the “Fourth Quarter” off-season conditioning program as outlined in a book he authored in 1983. The program has been adopted with great success at multiple schools, most notably at the University of Alabama by national championship coach Nick Saban, who once coached with Nystrom at MSU; and

Whereas, He has published multiple books and videos on the fundamentals of run and pass blocking and been recognized in the North Dakota State University Athletic Hall of Fame, the Upper Peninsula Sports Hall of Fame, the NMU Sports Hall of Fame, and the Marquette Area Public Schools A. Felch Pendill Wall of Excellence; and

Whereas, Buck has been a tremendous coach and mentor to many, including his son Kyle who has followed Buck into the college coaching ranks, currently serving as the assistant head coach and linebackers coach at CMU; and

Whereas, He has been very active in his community with youth football programs, the Bishop Baraga Fund, and Special Olympics of the Upper Peninsula; and

Whereas, Through illness and the fact that he is at an age when most men have long since retired, Buck has continued to participate in multiple summer football camps, sponsor blocking clinics for high school players, and serve as a volunteer coach for the Gwinn Modeltowners; and

Whereas, Buck Nystrom is an inspirational role model, mentor, and friend to many; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we offer this expression of highest tribute to honor Carl “Buck” Nystrom for his achievements on and off the athletic field and as a token of our appreciation for representing the state of Michigan so proudly; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Buck Nystrom as evidence of our highest esteem.