

Rep. Santana offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 120.

A resolution to condemn discrimination in any form and to call for an end to racist rhetoric and hate speech by United States presidential candidates.

Whereas, The United States of America was founded on the principles of liberty, justice, tolerance, and equality. Our Declaration of Independence stated clearly the self-evident truth that all persons are created equal with certain unalienable rights; and

Whereas, The United States is a nation of immigrants often referred to as a “melting pot” where ethnic diversity has enriched this country and helped to promote economic prosperity; and

Whereas, In Michigan 58 percent of agricultural revenue is accounted for by crops that use migrant labor. Moreover, 81 percent of farm workers are Spanish speakers and 75 percent are of Mexican descent; and

Whereas, Aspiring national leaders, in particular, have a responsibility to engage the public on immigration reform and other issues in a thoughtful and respectful way without disparaging communities or individuals. Negative, demonizing, and stereotypical rhetoric has no place in the national political discourse. Further, racist, hateful speech can incite severe and tragic consequences. Public figures across the country must accept and embrace the responsibility to engage in and advance civil, impactful discussions; and

Whereas, The Michigan Legislature has engaged in thoughtful, respectful discourse on immigration and other challenging issues, and respected the diverse individual views and beliefs of its membership and of the people it represents. This body believes all public leaders should be respectful and tolerant of the many diverse peoples and cultures that coexist in the United States; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we condemn discrimination in any form and call for an end to hate speech and racist rhetoric by all presidential candidates; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Republican National Committee, the Democratic National Committee, and each major candidate running for the United States presidency.