

Senators Bieda, Conyers, Warren and Hertel offered the following concurrent resolution:

**Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 13.**

A concurrent resolution to urge the United States Congress to enact legislation requiring the public release of tax returns by presidential nominees.

Whereas, Presidential nominees should be open about everything, including their financial and tax situations, and citizens should have a right to that information. The highest office in the country demands the highest degree of transparency. It is an office of public service, not of private interest; and

Whereas, Dating back to former President Richard Nixon, it has been customary for presidential nominees to release their tax returns. This 40-year-old precedent established a sense of trust between presidential nominees and voters by revealing any potential conflicts of interest; and

Whereas, Donald Trump so far has not released his tax returns. In late February 2016, then-presidential candidate Trump said he could not release his most recent tax returns because they were being audited by the Internal Revenue Service, even though he had pledged to release them in other comments. Former 2012 Republican presidential nominee, Mitt Romney, noted that nothing prevented the release of tax returns under audit and also that returns not under audit from previous years could be released in the interim. Donald Trump still refused to release any of his tax returns. Days after Trump was sworn in as president, Counselor to the President, Kellyanne Conway, informed the media and the American public that President Trump does not feel he has to release his tax returns; and

Whereas, The Trump business empire is sprawling and has connections across the country and world that could be financially impacted by the President's actions. Rather than heed bipartisan calls to put his assets in a blind trust, as is often done, President Trump said his children would manage his assets on his behalf; and

Whereas, United States citizens want to see the tax returns of President Trump and deserve transparency on the President's financial dealings. In fact, in less than two months' time, over 1 million people have signed a [whitehouse.gov](http://whitehouse.gov) petition demanding the immediate release of the President's tax returns; and

Whereas, The federal Presidential Tax Transparency Act (S. 26) would require the tax returns from the three most recent years of presidential nominees of major parties to be made public. While Congress has not used its authority to examine President Trump's tax returns, it should reverse course, serve the people's interest, and move to ensure that all presidential nominees' tax returns are made public going forward; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That we urge the United States Congress to enact legislation requiring the public release of tax returns by presidential nominees; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.