

The Speaker, on behalf of the entire membership of the House of Representatives, offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 196.

A resolution of tribute offered as a memorial for Gary M. Vanek, former member of the House of Representatives.

Whereas, The members of this legislative body were saddened to learn of the passing of former Representative Gary Vanek. He was a distinguished member of the Royal Oak community, including as a business leader and a civic and community servant; and

Whereas, A native of Royal Oak, Gary Vanek's life of service and contributions left an indelible mark on this community. He has the distinction of being among the first students to attend Kimball High School, and years later, was the commencement speaker for the last graduating class before the closure of the school. He coached little league football, and was a member of the Raven High School Hockey Team Board of Directors. In 2014, he was inducted in the Royal Oak High School Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, Gary Vanek graduated from Central Michigan University and Eastern Michigan University before embarking on a long and distinguished career that includes contributions in education, business, and public service. Elected to the Michigan House of Representatives in 1978, Gary Vanek served his constituents and the citizens of Michigan with diligence and commitment both as a member and leader within this legislative body. He was a member of the Economic Development and Energy, Taxation, and State Affairs committees. Furthermore, as Majority Floor Whip and as Majority Vice-Chair of the House Policy Committee and the House Committee on Roads and Bridges, he demonstrated leadership and commitment that were invaluable to the work of the Legislature. After his legislative tenure, he served on the state Liquor Control Commission from 1983 to 1988; and

Whereas, From his 17 years as an educator to the entrepreneurial acumen that he demonstrated as president and CEO of MEIA Insurance Agency, to his public and community service contributions, Gary Vanek has significantly impacted the lives of many. May the knowledge that he has made such a difference be a measure of solace for his loving family; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we offer this expression of our highest tribute to honor the memory of Gary M. Vanek, a member of this legislative body from 1978 to 1982; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Vanek family as evidence of our lasting esteem for his memory.