

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 369

Reps. Aiyash and Camilleri offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to condemn all threats made against public
2 officials, denounce all forms of intimidation and harassment, and
3 commit to reducing tensions by ending divisive rhetoric and taking
4 concerted actions to find common ground on the challenges facing
5 the people of Michigan.

6 Whereas, The freedom of speech and the freedom to peaceably
7 assemble are hallmarks of our First Amendment rights and founding
8 principles of this country. Article I, Section 3 of the
9 *Constitution of the State of Michigan of 1963* reaffirms:

10 The people have the right peaceably to assemble, to consult
11 for the common good, to instruct their representatives and
12 to petition the government for redress of grievances.

13 ; and

1 Whereas, It is a fundamental responsibility of people to
2 exercise these rights without the intention to harm, intimidate, or
3 harass others, and it is incumbent upon government and elected
4 leaders to foster an environment free of hateful and threatening
5 language that allows and encourages peaceful speech and peaceful
6 redress of grievances; and

7 Whereas, In the aftermath of the November 3, 2020, election,
8 attempts to intimidate and threaten public officials across the
9 political divide have escalated amidst the most significant public
10 health crisis in a century; and

11 Whereas, The freedom of speech and the freedom to peaceably
12 assemble have too often been abused by individuals or groups with
13 the intention to harm, intimidate, or harass. Their actions have
14 threatened not only the safety of public officials but threatened
15 the safety and endangered the welfare of their family members; now,
16 therefore, be it

17 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we
18 unequivocally condemn all threats made against public officials and
19 denounce all forms of intimidation and harassment as unacceptable;
20 and be it further

21 Resolved, That we commit as a body of elected leaders to
22 reduce tensions by ending divisive rhetoric and taking concerted
23 actions to find common ground on the challenges facing the people
24 of Michigan.