

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 155

Senator Shirkey offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution of tribute offered as a memorial for Arthur
2 Miller, Jr., former member of the Senate.

3 Whereas, It is with deep sadness that the members of this
4 legislative body learned of the passing of Arthur "Art" Miller, Jr.
5 He had an enduring commitment to serve his constituents in Macomb
6 County and his hometown of Warren during his tenure in the Senate
7 and career as a public servant; and

8 Whereas, Art Miller was a lifelong resident of Warren, the son
9 of the city's first mayor and the first woman elected Macomb County
10 Clerk. He graduated from Eastern Michigan University before
11 marrying his wife, Marsha, and raising their four children. Not
12 long after college, Art Miller followed his parents into public
13 service and was elected in 1971 to the first of three terms on the

1 Warren City Council, which prepared him for his time in the Senate;
2 and

3 Whereas, Art Miller was first elected to the state Senate in
4 1977, overcoming long odds to emerge victorious in a special
5 election. During his tenure in the Senate, he worked on many
6 issues, serving as the chair or vice chair of the Commerce;
7 Government Operations; Environmental and Agricultural Affairs;
8 Financial Services; Local, Urban, and State Affairs; and Banking
9 and Financial Institutions committees. He was known for his
10 willingness to fight to secure funding for the city of Warren and
11 Macomb County and as a champion for public education, public
12 safety, and labor rights. In 1985, he was elected to serve as the
13 Senate Minority Leader by his colleagues in the Democratic Caucus,
14 a role he held for ten years until stepping down at the end of
15 1995. He would go on to serve another seven years before his
16 retirement in 2002; and

17 Whereas, Art Miller was known for his bipartisan approach to
18 policymaking. He was willing to work with anyone who wanted to be
19 part of efforts to improve the lives of his constituents or people
20 throughout the state. As Senate Minority Leader, he took pride in
21 his role in bringing people together to find solutions. While known
22 for his easygoing and collaborative style, he fought hard for his
23 district, when necessary; and

24 Whereas, Art Miller's time in the Senate was also defined by
25 the friendships he formed with those he worked with. His colleagues
26 appreciated his generosity and willingness to take time to help
27 those around him. Like his approach to policymaking, these
28 friendships extended to both sides of the aisle; and

29 Whereas, Sometimes referred to as "Mr. Warren," Art Miller's

1 commitment to serving his hometown continued after retiring from
2 public service. His consulting firm was hired by Warren to advocate
3 for the community's interests, and he remained a presence in
4 Lansing; and

5 Whereas, Art Miller was a consummate public servant who spent
6 more than three decades serving his community. He was a leader who
7 worked to bring people together in addressing the issues facing
8 Michigan. His legacy of professionalism and dedication to his
9 constituents provides an example for other legislators to follow
10 and a source of pride for his family; now, therefore, be it

11 Resolved by the Senate, That we offer this expression of our
12 highest tribute to honor the memory of Arthur Miller, Jr., a member
13 of this legislative body from 1977 to 2002; and be it further

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