

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 177

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

1 A resolution of tribute offered as a memorial for Floyd Clack,
2 former member of the House of Representatives.

3 Whereas, It was with great sorrow that the members of the
4 House of Representatives learned about the passing of Floyd Clack.
5 He will be remembered as a dedicated public servant by his
6 constituents in Flint and Genesee County and the people of the
7 state of Michigan; and

8 Whereas, Floyd Clack was born in Texas in 1940, and it was
9 during his early years in Trinidad, Texas, where he learned the
10 values of hard work, faith, and service. He carried with him the
11 lessons he learned in his youth from his family and community,
12 which formed the foundation for the everlasting legacy that he
13 leaves behind; and

1 Whereas, Floyd found a passion for education early on in his
2 life. He graduated from Texas Southern University, attended
3 Thurgood Marshall School of Law, and received a master's degree
4 from Eastern Michigan University. He also worked in the public
5 school system in Houston, Texas, before relocating to Wisconsin and
6 joining the federal Job Corps program; and

7 Whereas, Floyd eventually settled in Flint, Michigan, where he
8 became a pillar of the community. He was a steadfast advocate for
9 young people in his role as educator and guidance counselor in the
10 Flint Community Schools, and his dedication and deep belief in
11 education as a transformative force led him to found the Flint
12 Youth Leadership Institute, an organization created to teach
13 leadership and develop young leaders. However, Floyd's passion and
14 commitment to the Flint community went beyond his role in schools.
15 He served with honor as a member of the Flint City Council, where
16 he founded the first official gun amnesty buyback program. He also
17 served on the Genesee County Board of Commissioners, where he acted
18 as the chair of the Human Services Committee and the Equity and
19 Diversity Subcommittee. Floyd was also a member of the board of
20 directors of the Valley Area Agency on Aging, the Genesee County
21 Metropolitan Alliance, the Violence Prevention Coalition, the
22 Greater Flint Health Coalition Equity and Diversity Subcommittee,
23 and the New Paths Board of Directors, among other organizations;
24 and

25 Whereas, In 1982, Floyd was elected to represent the Eightieth
26 District in the Michigan House of Representatives, which was
27 comprised of Flint and other parts of Genesee County. In 1993, he
28 began representing the Forty-eighth District after redistricting.
29 Floyd would serve with distinction in the House of Representatives

1 for seven terms before leaving in 1996; and

2 Whereas, While in the Legislature, Floyd focused his work and
3 efforts on advancing equitable public education, supporting working
4 families, and advocating for sustainable development in Michigan's
5 urban communities. He played an instrumental role in legislation
6 that sought to increase school funding, expand access to youth
7 programs, and improve educational resources for underserved
8 communities. Floyd also made a name for himself in Lansing by
9 serving in a number of positions. This included his work as the
10 chair of the House Committee on Civil Rights and Women's Issues, as
11 well as the House Committee on Corrections. He also served on the
12 Ad Hoc Special Committee on Alternatives for High Risk Students and
13 a number of other committees, including the House committees on
14 Education, Labor, and Urban Affairs, among others. Floyd was also
15 elected to be the vice chair of the House Democratic Black Caucus,
16 and to be the assistant majority floor leader. He will be
17 remembered by his colleagues as a thoughtful, principled, and
18 visionary legislator with an unwavering commitment to his
19 constituents in Flint and Genesee County; and

20 Whereas, While sustaining a demanding professional career,
21 Floyd always made time to serve the community that he loved. He
22 founded the Floyd and Brenda Clack Thanksgiving Dinner for Senior
23 Citizens, the Floyd Clack All Star Baseball Team, the Floyd Clack
24 Community Project, and the Flint Inner City Lions Club. He served
25 as the chair of a number of organizations, including the Coalition
26 for Fair Banking Practices, and was appointed to the Board of
27 Regents at Eastern Michigan University. He was also a member of
28 many different organizations, including the Flint NAACP, the Kappa
29 Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated, the Michigan Alternative

1 Education Association, the Urban League of Flint, and the Genesee
2 County Community Resources Department, just to name a few; and

3 Whereas, Floyd's dedication and impact did not go unnoticed by
4 those he worked with and those he aimed to serve. He was the
5 recipient of the David McMahon Award from the Michigan Education
6 Association, the Stewart R. Mott Leadership Award, the Key to the
7 City of Flint, the Leadership Award from the Flint NAACP, the
8 Woodrow and Reta Stanley Lifetime Service Award, and the Man of the
9 Year award from the Flint Inner City Lions Club; and

10 Whereas, While Floyd knew many professional successes in his
11 life, it was his family that meant the most to him. He met the love
12 of his life, Brenda Jones, who, as Brenda Jones Clack, served as
13 the Thirty-fourth District Representative. After settling in Flint,
14 the couple raised two children, Michael and Mia. It was always
15 Floyd's mission to instill in his children the values of heart,
16 integrity, resiliency, and community that he held so dear, values
17 he passed on to his grandchildren; and

18 Whereas, Floyd's legacy will live on and continue to touch
19 those in the Flint community and across the state of Michigan. He
20 will be remembered for his poise, grace, and mentorship, as well as
21 his reliance and unwavering dedication to uplifting those around
22 him; and

23 Whereas, Upon Floyd Clack's passing, we offer our condolences
24 to his loved ones. Floyd Clack's contributions to this chamber and
25 the state of Michigan will be remembered; now, therefore, be it

26 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we offer this
27 expression of our highest tribute to honor the memory of Floyd
28 Clack, a member of the House of Representatives from 1983 to 1996;
29 and be it further

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