

Senators Gregory, Horn, Jones, Proos, Emmons, Warren, Brandenburg, Knollenberg and Schmidt offered the following concurrent resolution:

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 30.

A concurrent resolution to encourage the Governor to change the name of the Michigan Department of Corrections to the Michigan Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Whereas, In addition to holding offenders accountable, the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) provides rehabilitative opportunities and reentry assistance. Ensuring public safety requires that the department house offenders in prison, but also that offenders leave supervision ready to become productive members of society who are less likely to commit crimes in the future; and

Whereas, Quality rehabilitation and reentry services improve public safety, enhance offenders' quality of life, and are a cost-effective use of taxpayer dollars. The MDOC works with prisoners throughout their sentences to prepare them for reentry into the community, providing educational opportunities and support services designed to give offenders the tools they need to receive parole and succeed when they return home; and

Whereas, Rehabilitation services also function as an important bridge back into society because they afford prisoners an opportunity to engage with volunteers and professionals from the community who are invested in their success; and

Whereas, The names of state departments should reflect their mission and the priorities assigned by the Governor and Legislature. Adding rehabilitation to the MDOC's name will more clearly articulate the department's vision to employees, offenders, and the general public; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That we encourage the Governor to change the name of the Michigan Department of Corrections to the Michigan Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Director of the Michigan Department of Corrections.