

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 262

Reps. Brenda Carter, Bezotte, Bollin, Glanville, Haadsma, Hill, Liberati, MacDonell, Rheingans, Schuette, Witwer and Xiong offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the *Brown*
2 *v. Board of Education* Supreme Court decision.

3 Whereas, On May 17, 2024, the nation will mark the 70th
4 anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *Brown v. Board of*
5 *Education*, in which the court unanimously decided that "in the
6 field of public education, the doctrine 'separate but equal' has no
7 place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal"; and

8 Whereas, The *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling was a
9 triumphant civil rights victory following decades of litigation and
10 fights to end state-sponsored segregation in U.S. public schools

1 and provided hope and inspiration to those involved in the struggle
2 for racial equality in the United States; and

3 Whereas, The ruling energized the then-fledgling civil rights
4 movement, opened the door to and gave a legal basis for ending
5 centuries of racial segregation, and is widely recognized as one of
6 the most pivotal U.S. Supreme Court rulings of the 20th century;
7 and

8 Whereas, The historic decision repudiated the doctrine of
9 "separate but equal" ruling that separate educational systems, by
10 their very nature, could not be equal. It must be noted that many
11 areas of our nation are still struggling with the vestiges of
12 segregation and many students are still not afforded equal
13 opportunities in public education and the larger society; and

14 Whereas, The challenge of racial equality continues as we must
15 work to build a society in which differences are embraced and
16 opportunities made equally available, a society enriched by racial
17 diversity, not segregated by it, and that we do all we can to build
18 a society that will leave no one behind; now, therefore, be it

19 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
20 this legislative body commemorate the 70th anniversary of the *Brown*
21 *v. Board of Education* Supreme Court decision. We encourage
22 Michiganders to dedicate time engaging each other on the importance
23 of this Supreme Court decision and its impact on equal opportunity
24 in public education and the larger society.