

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 101

Reps. Arbit and Steckloff offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare May 2023 as Jewish American Heritage
2 Month in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, May is celebrated as Jewish American Heritage Month,
4 providing an opportunity to celebrate the rich history, culture,
5 and contributions of American Jews to the United States and the
6 state of Michigan; and

7 Whereas, Jewish presence in Michigan dates back over 250
8 years, to 1761, when Ezekiel Solomon settled in Fort
9 Michilimackinac, now Mackinaw City; and

10 Whereas, Michigan is home to a vibrant Jewish community nearly
11 100,000 strong that has grown and flourished across the state, with
12 significant Jewish presence in the Metro Detroit communities of

1 West Bloomfield, Farmington Hills, Oak Park, Huntington Woods,
2 Southfield, Franklin, Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham, Commerce, Ann
3 Arbor, and other communities; and

4 Whereas, Michigan's Jewish community has been instrumental in
5 promoting economic growth and development, fostering education and
6 philanthropy, and supporting social justice and civil rights
7 causes; and

8 Whereas, Jews have made unique and substantial contributions
9 to civics, government, and leadership of the United States and
10 Michigan, including prominent figures such as Supreme Court
11 Justices Louis Brandeis and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, U.S. Senator Carl
12 Levin, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, Michigan Attorney
13 General Dana Nessel; U.S. Representative Elissa Slotkin; Judge
14 Avern Cohn; and

15 Whereas, Jews have made unique and substantial contributions
16 to movements for justice and civil rights, including Gloria
17 Steinem, Harvey Milk, Samuel Gompers, Bella Abzug, Rabbi Abraham
18 Joseph Heschel, and countless others; and

19 Whereas, Jews have made substantial contributions to economic
20 development, business, and philanthropy in Michigan and across the
21 United States, including leaders in the Detroit Jewish community
22 David Hermelin, Max Fisher, William Davidson, and Gary Torgow; and

23 Whereas, Jews have made invaluable contributions to the arts,
24 culture, sports, and entertainment in America, with notable figures
25 such as Gilda Radner, Hank Greenberg, Joan Rivers, Stephen
26 Sondheim, Stan Lee, Barbra Streisand, Steven Spielberg, among
27 countless others; and

28 Whereas, Jews have played a vital role in building America's
29 engine of innovation in the fields of science, technology,

1 medicine, and fashion, with pioneers such as Albert Einstein, Larry
2 Page, Carl Sagan, Levi Strauss, Hedy Lamarr, and Ruth Handler; now,
3 therefore, be it

4 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
5 this legislative body declare May 2023 as Jewish American Heritage
6 Month in the state of Michigan. We celebrate the countless
7 groundbreaking, unique, and significant contributions of American
8 Jews, which have had a profound impact in shaping the development
9 and character of our state and country.