

**HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 352**

A bill to designate March 31 of each year as Cesar E. Chavez day in the state of Michigan; to designate July 14 of each year as President Gerald R. Ford day in the state of Michigan; and to designate July 30 of each year as Henry Ford day in the state of Michigan.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. (1) The legislature recognizes the fundamental
2 contribution that Cesar E. Chavez made to this nation by
3 organizing farm workers to campaign for safe and fair working
4 conditions, reasonable wages, decent housing, and the outlawing
5 of child labor. Cesar E. Chavez began working in the fields of
6 Arizona and California at the age of 10. Profoundly influenced
7 by these humble beginnings, Chavez embraced the nonviolent
8 principles of Mohandas Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to
9 crusade against racial and economic discrimination, coordinate

1 voter registration drives, and found the united farm workers of
2 America. In 1994, Chavez was posthumously awarded the
3 presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest honor given to
4 civilians by the United States government. In memory of this
5 great American, the legislature declares that March 31 of each
6 year shall be known as "Cesar E. Chavez Day".

7 (2) The legislature encourages each individual in the great
8 state of Michigan to pause on Cesar E. Chavez day and reflect
9 upon the courage and sacrifice of a man Robert Kennedy once
10 referred to as "one of the heroic figures of our time".

11 Sec. 2. (1) The legislature recognizes the exceptional
12 contributions to American life, history, and leadership made by
13 Gerald R. Ford, the thirty-eighth president of the United States
14 and the only United States president from Michigan, who for
15 decades has served the United States and the state of Michigan.
16 For much of his life, President Ford resided in Grand Rapids. He
17 attended South high school in Grand Rapids and the university of
18 Michigan in Ann Arbor. He served with distinction as a member of
19 the United States house of representatives, vice president of the
20 United States, and president of the United States. Among
21 numerous other awards and honors, President Ford has received the
22 Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the nation, and
23 the Congressional Gold Medal for his "dedicated public service
24 and outstanding humanitarian contributions". In commemoration of
25 the significant role Gerald R. Ford has played in the history of
26 the state of Michigan and our nation, the legislature declares
27 that July 14 of each year shall be known as "President Gerald

1 R. Ford Day".

2 (2) The legislature encourages each individual in the great
3 state of Michigan to pause on President Gerald R. Ford day and
4 reflect upon the significance of President Ford's leadership and
5 important contributions to the history of the state of Michigan
6 and to the history of this great nation.

7 Sec. 3. (1) The legislature recognizes the outstanding
8 contributions to American life, history, and culture made by
9 Henry Ford, founder of Ford motor company and a man of great
10 vision. During most of his life, Henry Ford resided in
11 Dearborn. He pioneered industrial mass production methods and
12 made an automobile that was affordable for his workers. The Ford
13 motor company debuted the Model T in 1908; by 1918, fully half of
14 all cars sold in America were Model Ts. In 1910, Ford opened a
15 large automobile factory in Highland Park; later, he introduced
16 the moving assembly line. This innovation reduced costs,
17 increased production, and revolutionized industrial manufacturing
18 in the United States and abroad. In honor of the significant
19 role Henry Ford has played in the history of the state of
20 Michigan and the United States, the legislature declares that
21 July 30 of each year shall be known as "Henry Ford Day".

22 (2) The legislature encourages each individual in the great
23 state of Michigan to pause on Henry Ford day and reflect upon the
24 significance of Henry Ford's contributions to the history of the
25 state of Michigan and to the history of this great nation.