

Senator Sikkema offered the following concurrent resolution:

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 22.

A concurrent resolution offered as a memorial for Martha Griffiths, President of the Senate from 1983 to 1990.

Whereas, It is with great admiration for the impact of her life of service to our state and nation that we mark the passing of Martha Griffiths, who served as the President of the Michigan Senate from 1983 to 1990. A true pioneer in many aspects of her varied and accomplishment-filled career, Martha Griffiths was a leader not only in shaping laws and public policy, but also in revamping attitudes and aspirations in our society; and

Whereas, History will remember Martha Griffiths as one of the most important advocates for women's rights of her time. During her twenty-year tenure in Congress, she spearheaded legislative reforms, including making sure women's rights were included in the landmark 1964 Civil Rights Act. With great determination, a strong sense of history, and personal integrity, she led the drive seeking passage of the Equal Rights Amendment that helped awaken public consciousness. In addition, she was a tireless and articulate voice of common sense and fairness on all issues; and

Whereas, In all her work, from the practice of law to responsibilities as a judge and from her membership on several corporate boards to her legendary work wielding the gavel in this legislative body, Martha Griffiths acted out of a deep love of people and our democracy. Her warmth, humor, and character touched all who knew her and inspired a generation of young women to pursue public service. Michigan is far stronger for her life and commitment; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That we honor the memory of Martha Griffiths, judge, legislator, congresswoman, lieutenant governor, and pioneer in advancing women's rights in our nation; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Griffiths family as evidence of our deep respect for her memory.