



City of Detroit
Detroit City Council
Council Member Angela Whitfield Calloway
District 2

STATEMENT

TO: Honorable City Council

THROUGH: Mary Sheffield, Council President

FROM: Angela Whitfield Calloway, Council Member *AWF*

DATE: July 23, 2024

RE: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 4177 OF 2023 AND HOUSE BILLS 5817 AND 5818 OF 2024

On Thursday, June 20, 2024, the Michigan House of Representatives passed House Bill 4177, first introduced by Representative Tyrone Carter on March 7, 2023.

If passed, the History Museum Authorities Act would allow the Detroit Historical Museum, the Dossin Great Lakes Museum, and the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History to, with voter approval, obtain essential funding for operations by levying a local tax. This would echo legislation that supports the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Detroit Zoo.

For years now, our city's historical gatekeepers have come before council asking for support in order to continue to maintain Detroit's cultural artifacts. The maintenance of our city's history should never be called into question.

Our children should grow up with the essential understanding of how the components of our shared past have paved the way for their futures.

As the city attracts more visitors, the need to prioritize our roots has become more critical than ever. Preserving our museums gives visitors an opportunity to educate themselves and connect with the local community.

I have asked the Legislative Policy Division to draft this resolution in support of House Bills 4177, 5817, and 5818. It is critical that we stand beside these historical institutions as they have always stood beside us.