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**THE SENATE
STATE OF MICHIGAN**

The theme of this year's Trans Empowerment Month is THRIVE 365. A reminder to celebrate and support transgender youth and their families all year long. That thriving looks different for everyone and that is okay. It can also serve as a reminder to focus on the positives during the times when it can all feel so negative.

While we continue to see anti-trans and hate-filled legislation introduced in state legislatures across the nation, we also see people standing up to this hate and fighting for what is right. We will not let hate win. We will recognize and celebrate all the experiences, strengths, and stories that make up this beautiful community. A community that is not defined by hate or vitriol, but acceptance and love.

Stand with Trans embodies all the good to be found through the work they continue to do. The resources, support, and validation they offer to individuals and families can make all the difference in the world. Whether this is your first year participating in Trans Empowerment Month or you've been here since the beginning, you know there is a place for you.

So, for everyone taking the month of October to remind themselves that they deserve to THRIVE all year long, I hope you will remember that we see you, we support you, and we celebrate you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rosemary K. Bayer".

Senator Rosemary K. Bayer

State Senator