RESOLUTION HONORING

12TH ANNUAL LATINO YOUTH CONFERENCE
Theme: The Power of Dreams (El Poder de Soñar)

WHEREAS, West Michigan will hold its 12th Annual Latino Youth Conference. The opportunity for a great future awaits Latinos in West Michigan and the best promise for the future lies in the hopes and dreams of our Latino youth. That belief is held and celebrated by Latino leaders in the community who have worked to ensure that those hopes and dreams are realized; and

WHEREAS, On March 8, 2011, approximately 550 Latino 8th grade middle school students from West Michigan, community members, area colleges representatives, and businesses will gather at Grand Rapids Community College in Grand Rapids, Michigan; and

WHEREAS, The conference's goals are to:

- Empower and develop Latino youth leaders through education;
- Facilitate the process of high school and college students coming together as leaders;
- Introduce students to financial resources that will enable them to pursue higher education;
- Provide a variety of workshops to give students the information they need to succeed;
- Unite Latino youth in West Michigan and strengthen our sense of community; and

WHEREAS, Students will be in attendance from various schools from the Grand Rapids area and surrounding cities; and

WHEREAS, The conference will feature guest speaker Mr. Carlos Ojeda, Jr., a motivational speaker, from Pennsylvania; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan applauds and commends the members of the planning committee, Grand Rapids Community College, the sponsors, the keynote speaker and all who have contributed to making this Youth Conference a success; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Hispanic/Latino Commission of Michigan asks all citizens to join in commending the Youth Conference sponsors, Grand Rapids Community College, planners, and participants for their outstanding work in providing guidance to the young people of Western Michigan as they prepare to become leaders in their communities.

Given under our hands on this 8th day of March, in the year of the Lord Two Thousand and eleven.

Commissioner Debra Ehrmann
Commissioner Michael Espinoza
Commissioner Frederick Feliciano
Commissioner Rick Garcia
Commissioner Gil Guzman
Commissioner Olga Hernandez-Patino
Commissioner Benjamin Inquilla
Commissioner Art Luna
Commissioner Mike Ramirez
Commissioner Alicia Ramon
Commissioner Art Reyes
Commissioner Maria Elena Rodriguez
Commissioner Leonard Savala

Lawrence García, Commission Chairperson

Marylou Mason, Executive Director