

**PROCLAMATION  
SUPPORTING MICHIGAN'S QUALITY HOME HELP PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS, Michigan's Home Help Program** currently provides the opportunity for more than 50,000 disabled and senior Michigan residents to live with dignity as full members of their communities; and

**WHEREAS,** Home care is a critical, compassionate, efficient and cost-effective solution for the state to provide long term care for our citizens who need it; and

**WHEREAS,** Home care not only allows senior and people with disabilities to remain in their own homes, it also is a much more cost-effective alternative to institutions such as nursing homes; and

**WHEREAS,** The demand for services that allow Michigan seniors and people with disabilities to stay in their homes as long as possible is projected to rise dramatically in the next decade; and

**WHEREAS,** With a rapidly expanding older adult population, home care is one of the greatest investments the state can make to fund good, meaningful jobs and to eradicate the high caregiver turnover crisis that jeopardizes quality health care for seniors and people with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS,** The quality and integrity of **Michigan's Home Help Program** depends on attracting and retaining a qualified workforce, which in turn is dependent on adequate wages and benefits;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** That the City of Troy supports efforts to maintain and improve the **Home Help Program** by protecting all current services by working toward paying a living wage plus health care benefits to home care providers and by encouraging consideration of full Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement rates;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the City of Troy supports seeking smart solutions to address the state's budget crisis while preserving services, including maximizing federal contributions to **Michigan's Home Help Program**.

Signed this 20<sup>th</sup> Day of March 2006