



HR0268

LRB100 12121 MST 24412 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Great Lakes border eight states, contain 84%
3 of the fresh water in the United States, and impact the lives
4 of 30 million Americans; and

5 WHEREAS, The 63 miles of shoreline along Lake Michigan in
6 Illinois are home to six million people and communities that
7 strive to preserve and protect them; and

8 WHEREAS, Lake Michigan provides safe, clean drinking water
9 to seven million residents in Illinois; and

10 WHEREAS, Tourism brings 20 million people to Illinois to
11 visit the Lake Michigan shoreline, generates \$3.2 billion
12 annually in economic activity, and supports 33,000 jobs; and

13 WHEREAS, Lake Michigan provides Illinois with an inland
14 port connecting it to the Eastern United States, Canada, and
15 the Atlantic Ocean; and

16 WHEREAS, Commerce along Lake Michigan provides nearly
17 7,000 jobs that are connected to shipping and the Port of
18 Chicago and adds over \$400 million to the local economy; and

19 WHEREAS, The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative was

1 created in 2010 to remove toxic substances, slow the growth of
2 invasive species, address pollution near the shore, and protect
3 and restore natural habitats in the Great Lakes; and

4 WHEREAS, Maintaining the Great Lakes is essential to
5 protecting industries throughout Illinois, including tourism,
6 agriculture, manufacturing, shipping, and freight transport;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, In President Trump's proposed budget, funding for
9 the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative was slashed by 97%, from
10 \$300 million to just \$10 million; and

11 WHEREAS, The funding for this program has helped many
12 critical environmental restoration programs to increase the
13 health and safety of the Great Lakes and improve the lakes for
14 recreation and commerce; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
16 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
17 urge President Trump and the United States Congress to fully
18 fund the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, which is vital to
19 our environment and economy; and be it further

20 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
21 delivered to President Donald Trump, U.S. Senate Majority

1 Leader Mitch McConnell, U.S. Senate Minority Leader Chuck
2 Schumer, U.S. Speaker of the House of Representatives Paul
3 Ryan, U.S. House of Representatives Minority Leader Nancy
4 Pelosi, and all members of the Illinois Congressional
5 Delegation.