



SR0473

LRB102 19711 ECR 28485 r

1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake located  
3 entirely in the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, When measured by water surface, Lake Michigan is  
5 the third largest of the Great Lakes; and

6 WHEREAS, Lake Michigan is the second largest of the Great  
7 Lakes by volume; and

8 WHEREAS, Approximately 12 million people live along Lake  
9 Michigan's shore, including the 2.7 million residents of the  
10 City of Chicago; and

11 WHEREAS, Lake Michigan serves as a source of drinking  
12 water, as a place for swimming and fishing, and as a scenic  
13 wonderland; and

14 WHEREAS, Lake Michigan is a magnificent resource that  
15 provides an essential home for all kinds of wildlife; and

16 WHEREAS, In 2008, Illinois, along with Indiana, Michigan,  
17 Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin,  
18 adopted a compact banning diversions without concurrence of  
19 all signatories, which President George W. Bush signed; and

1           WHEREAS, The declining water levels could negatively  
2 impact industries such as commercial shipping, hydroelectric  
3 power generation, and recreational boating and fishing, which  
4 in turn would hinder the economic growth of the region; and

5           WHEREAS, The Great Lakes are large bodies of water that  
6 would not replenish easily; and

7           WHEREAS, Experts have already seen environmental changes  
8 created by the diversion of water; the Great Lakes ice cover  
9 has been decreasing while air and water temperatures have been  
10 rising, which clearly illustrates global climate change in the  
11 region; and

12           WHEREAS, Removing water from this vital body of water sets  
13 a bad precedent for the protection of this finite resource and  
14 will put a strain on its water supply; therefore, be it

15           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL  
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we strongly support  
17 the Great Lakes Basin Compact and adamantly oppose any effort  
18 to divert water from Lake Michigan, or the other Great Lakes,  
19 to the southwestern states.