

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 194

Reps. Anthony, Aiyash, Allor, Bezotte, Brabec, Cavanagh, Haadsma, Hope, Koleszar, Kuppa, Lasinski, Liberati, Rabhi, Rogers, Sneller, Sowerby, Steenland, Thanedar, Weiss and Witwer offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare November 15-21, 2021, as Recycling
2 Week in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, We all hold the responsibility to future generations
4 to ensure they have the ability and right to live in a clean and
5 sustainable Michigan; and

6 Whereas, Michigan's recycling rate is around only 15% when the
7 national recycling rate is 32%; and

8 Whereas, Recycling not only has a positive impact on the
9 environment, but also provides an economic benefit. Research shows
10 that recycling and reuse activities nationwide accounted for

1 681,000 jobs and \$37.8 billion in wages. A 2017 state recycling
2 report states that over \$600 million recoverable materials end up
3 in landfills, costing the state of Michigan over 1 billion dollars;
4 and

5 Whereas, In the year 2020, the total waste disposal in
6 Michigan landfills was reported at 52,697,247 cubic yards; and

7 Whereas, Recycling conserves resources such as timber, water,
8 and minerals. Recycling protects the environment by reducing the
9 amount of waste in landfills and combustion facilities, as well as
10 the amount of plastic in Michigan's waterways; and

11 Whereas, Approximately 9,887 metric tons of plastic debris per
12 year enter the Laurentian Great Lakes. The Great Lakes make up
13 about 21% of the world's supply of surface fresh water and 84% of
14 North America's surface fresh water; and

15 Whereas, It is estimated that 138,000 new jobs would be
16 created if Michigan's recycling rate tripled to 45%. This would
17 provide \$9 billion in annual labor income and \$33.8 billion in
18 economic output. This would also eliminate emission of an
19 additional 7 million metric ton equivalent of carbon dioxide; and

20 Whereas, We celebrate Michiganders' continued dedication to
21 reduce, reuse, and recycle; now, therefore, be it

22 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
23 this legislative body declare November 15-21, 2021, as Recycling
24 Week in the state of Michigan. We demonstrate our state's
25 commitment to sustainability. The act of recycling, both at the
26 individual and industrial level, help support a healthier and more
27 economically prosperous Michigan.