

Rep. LaVoy offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 421.

A resolution to urge Governor Snyder to call together a regional governors' commission to address algae blooms in Lake Erie.

Whereas, On August 2, the city of Toledo issued a "do-not-drink" advisory for users of their drinking water system because of toxins produced by large algal blooms in Lake Erie. For more than two days, a half million people in the Toledo area needed to find alternative sources for one of life's most basic necessities, safe drinking water; and

Whereas, Harmful algal blooms are increasingly common in Lake Erie, a source of drinking water for communities in Michigan, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Ontario. Increased nutrient inputs to Lake Erie, warmer water temperatures, and invasive species are all factors contributing to the scope and prevalence of these blooms. Unfortunately, the status quo is clearly insufficient to address the reality confronting Toledo and other Lake Erie communities; and

Whereas, The public health threat from harmful algal blooms requires a coordinated response from our state leaders. Activities in each state and province surrounding Lake Erie may be contributing to the problem. Over forty years ago, it took strong regional cooperation to help bring Lake Erie back from the "dead." No less is required now to protect this shared resource upon which so many residents of Michigan and the other states and province rely; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge Governor Snyder to call together a governors' commission with the governors of Ohio, New York, and Pennsylvania and the premier of Ontario to address the health of Lake Erie; and be it further

Resolved, That we urge the governors and premier to determine the cause of the recent algae bloom, develop solutions to mitigate future algae blooms, implement agreed upon solutions, and monitor lake health; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to Governor Snyder; the governors of New York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio; and the Premier of Ontario.