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BRIAN CALLEY  
LT. GOVERNOR

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GOVERNOR

2016 JUN -6 P 1:29

June 6, 2016

Michigan Senate  
State Capitol Building  
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today I am returning Enrolled Senate Bill 363, without signature. SB 363 would reduce permit fees for noncommercial residential harbors on the Great Lakes. The bottomlands of the Great Lakes are held in trust for all Michiganders to enjoy. Any change that allows for their private, exclusive use needs careful consideration. While I support ensuring permitting fees are reasonable, the bill moves beyond the original intent of addressing single family residential harbors permit fees with overly broad language that creates additional problems and uncertainty.

I am particularly concerned that the fees reduced by the bill will adversely impact the Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) ability to process permits in the timely manner that we have come to expect. There is no corresponding benefit to offset those issues.

I support the efforts of this legislation to address what some consider excessive fees for single family residential harbors, and have asked the MDEQ to review their fee schedule for this specific type of use, and recommend to me and the legislature the appropriate changes.

I look forward to working with the DEQ and the Sponsor to address the discrete issue this legislation was originally intended to solve.

Sincerely,

Rick Snyder  
Governor