



# HOUSE BILL No. 4884

May 23, 1995, Introduced by Reps. Middaugh, Alley, Bodem, McManus, DeHart, Hill, Murphy, Gnodtke, Munsell, Sikkema, Brater and Wetters and referred to the Committee on Conservation, Environment and Great Lakes.

A bill to amend Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," as amended, being sections 324.101 to 324.90101 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, by adding part 359.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1 Section 1. Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, as  
2 amended, being sections 324.101 to 324.90101 of the Michigan  
3 Compiled Laws, is amended by adding part 359 to read as follows:

4 PART 359 ADOPT-A-RIVER PROGRAM

5 SEC. 35901. (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER A PROGRAM  
6 ENTITLED THE ADOPT-A-RIVER PROGRAM WHICH SHALL BE DESIGNED TO  
7 REMOVE LITTER FROM AND TO BEAUTIFY THE STATE'S RIVERS. THE  
8 PROGRAM SHALL INCLUDE PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL ACTIVITIES, BUT SHALL  
9 BE DIRECTED PRIMARILY TOWARD ENCOURAGING AND FACILITATING THE

1 INVOLVEMENT OF VOLUNTEER GROUPS IN LITTER CLEANUP WORK AND  
2 ASSIGNING EACH GROUP TO A SPECIFIC RIVER OR STREAM SEGMENT.

3 (2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY PROMULGATE RULES AS NECESSARY TO  
4 IMPLEMENT THE ADOPT-A-RIVER PROGRAM.

5 (3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH VOLUN-  
6 TEER GROUPS TO IMPLEMENT THE ADOPT-A-RIVER PROGRAM. AGREEMENTS  
7 WITH VOLUNTEER GROUPS SHALL INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, ALL  
8 OF THE FOLLOWING:

9 (A) IDENTIFICATION OF THE DESIGNATED RIVER OR STREAM  
10 SEGMENT. THE VOLUNTEER GROUP MAY REQUEST A SPECIFIC SEGMENT OF  
11 THE RIVER OR STREAM IT WISHES TO ADOPT, BUT THE ASSIGNMENT SHALL  
12 BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE DEPARTMENT. IN ASSIGNING SECTIONS OF  
13 A RIVER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL COORDINATE AND COOPERATE WITH  
14 AFFECTED FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL MANAGEMENT AGENCIES AND PRI-  
15 VATE LANDOWNERS.

16 (B) SPECIFICATION OF THE DUTIES OF THE VOLUNTEER GROUP WHICH  
17 SHALL INVOLVE THE REMOVAL OF LITTER ALONG THE DESIGNATED RIVER OR  
18 STREAM SEGMENT AT LEAST ONCE EACH YEAR.

19 (C) SPECIFICATION OF THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VOLUNTEER  
20 GROUP, INCLUDING THE VOLUNTEER GROUP'S AGREEMENT TO ABIDE BY ALL  
21 RULES RELATED TO THE PROGRAM THAT ARE ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

22 (D) A SPECIFIC DESIGNATION OF THE LENGTH OF TIME THE VOLUN-  
23 TEER GROUP CONTRACTS TO CARE FOR THE DESIGNATED RIVER OR STREAM  
24 SEGMENT, WHICH SHALL BE FOR A PERIOD OF TIME OF NOT LESS THAN 2  
25 YEARS.

26 SEC. 35902. IN IMPLEMENTING THIS PART AND THE ADOPT-A-RIVER  
27 PROGRAM, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

1 (A) CREATE A RECOGNITION PROGRAM THAT ACKNOWLEDGES THE  
2 EFFORTS OF VOLUNTEER GROUPS AND THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUPS THAT  
3 PARTICIPATE IN THE ADOPT-A-RIVER PROGRAM.

4 (B) PROVIDE TRASH BAGS, SAFETY INFORMATION, AND ASSISTANCE  
5 TO THE PARTICIPATING VOLUNTEER GROUPS.

6 (C) UNDERTAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR FACILITATING THE REMOVAL OF  
7 LARGE OR HEAVY ITEMS FROM A RIVER OR STREAM SEGMENT IF SUCH ITEMS  
8 ARE FOUND BY A VOLUNTEER GROUP.

9 SEC. 35903. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY REPORT TO THE  
10 STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE LEGISLATURE THAT PRIMARILY CONSIDER  
11 ISSUES PERTAINING TO THE PROTECTION OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE  
12 ENVIRONMENT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION AND PROGRESS OF THE  
13 ADOPT-A-RIVER PROGRAM.