

**SENATE BILL NO. 444**

April 23, 1997, Introduced by Senators STILLE, BENNETT, ROGERS, HOFFMAN, MC MANUS, EMMONS, SCHUETTE and A. SMITH and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled "Natural resources and environmental protection act," (MCL 324.101 to 324.90106) by adding section 72105a.

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

- 1           SEC. 74105A. (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH AN  
2 "ADOPT-A-TRAIL" PROGRAM THAT WILL ALLOW VOLUNTEER GROUPS TO  
3 ASSIST IN MAINTAINING AND ENHANCING MICHIGAN TRAILWAYS.  
4           (2) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (3), VOLUNTEER GROUPS IN THE  
5 ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROGRAM MAY ADOPT ANY AVAILABLE MICHIGAN TRAILWAY  
6 OR MICHIGAN TRAILWAY SEGMENT AND MAY CHOOSE ANY 1 OR MORE OF THE  
7 FOLLOWING VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:  
8           (A) SPRING CLEANUPS.  
9           (B) ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES.  
10          (C) ACCESSIBILITY PROJECTS.

1 (D) SPECIAL EVENTS.

2 (E) TRAILWAY MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT.

3 (F) PUBLIC INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE.

4 (G) TRAINING.

5 (3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DESIGNATE THE ACTIVITIES TO BE PER-  
6 FORMED BY A VOLUNTEER GROUP IN THE ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROGRAM. THE  
7 DEPARTMENT MAY PROVIDE FOR MORE THAN 1 VOLUNTEER GROUP TO ADOPT A  
8 MICHIGAN TRAILWAY OR MICHIGAN TRAILWAY SEGMENT.

9 (4) A VOLUNTEER GROUP THAT WISHES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE  
10 ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROGRAM SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE DEPART-  
11 MENT ON A FORM PROVIDED BY THE DEPARTMENT. ADDITIONALLY, VOLUN-  
12 TEER GROUPS SHALL AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:

13 (A) VOLUNTEER GROUPS SHALL PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM FOR AT  
14 LEAST A 2-YEAR PERIOD.

15 (B) VOLUNTEER GROUPS SHALL CONSIST OF AT LEAST 6 PEOPLE WHO  
16 ARE 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER, UNLESS THE VOLUNTEER GROUP IS A  
17 SCHOOL OR SCOUT ORGANIZATION, IN WHICH CASE THE VOLUNTEERS MAY BE  
18 UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE.

19 (C) VOLUNTEER GROUPS SHALL CONTRIBUTE A TOTAL OF AT LEAST  
20 400 SERVICE HOURS OVER A 2-YEAR PERIOD.

21 (D) VOLUNTEER GROUPS SHALL COMPLY WITH OTHER REASONABLE  
22 REQUIREMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

23 (5) A STATE PARK MANAGER MAY ISSUE TO VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE  
24 ACTIVELY WORKING ON ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROJECTS THAT LAST MORE THAN 1  
25 DAY FREE CAMPING PERMITS IF CAMPSITES ARE AVAILABLE. A STATE  
26 PARK MANAGER MAY WAIVE STATE PARK ENTRY FEES FOR VOLUNTEERS  
27 ENTERING STATE PARKS TO WORK ON ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROJECTS.

1           (6) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DESIGN AND ERECT NEAR THE ENTRANCE  
2 OF EACH MICHIGAN TRAILWAY IN THE ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROGRAM OR ALONG  
3 THE TRAILWAY AN ADOPT-A-TRAIL PROGRAM SIGN WITH THE NAME OF THE  
4 VOLUNTEER GROUP'S SPONSORING ORGANIZATION LISTED FOR EACH VOLUN-  
5 TEER GROUP THAT HAS CONTRIBUTED AT LEAST 100 SERVICE HOURS BY  
6 VOLUNTEERS.