

SENATE BILL No. 1448

September 14, 2006, Introduced by Senators ALLEN, GILBERT, SANBORN, GOSCHKA, BIRKHOLZ, VAN WOERKOM and JELINEK 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 3104a.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 SEC. 3104A. (1) TO ADDRESS CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL WATER QUALITY
2 ISSUES, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL FACILITATE THE FORMATION OF A GREAT
3 LAKES WATER QUALITY COUNCIL. THE COUNCIL SHALL CONSIST OF
4 ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS FROM STATE AND LOCAL
5 GOVERNMENTS AND CANADIAN PROVINCES WITHIN THE GREAT LAKES REGION.
6 THE COUNCIL SHALL RESEARCH AND RECOMMEND PUBLIC POLICY MEASURES TO
7 ADDRESS CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL WATER QUALITY ISSUES, INCLUDING, BUT
8 NOT LIMITED TO, WATER QUALITY MONITORING, DISCHARGES FROM SEWAGE
9 OVERFLOWS AND TOXIC SPILLS, APPROPRIATE INVESTIGATORY PROCEDURES TO
10 DETERMINE THE CAUSE AND EXTENT OF THESE DISCHARGES, AND

1 APPORTIONMENT OF COSTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THESE DISCHARGES.
2 THE COUNCIL SHALL ALSO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUNDING AND
3 APPROPRIATE ENFORCEMENT MEASURES THAT WILL HELP TO DEVELOP A
4 COORDINATED CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL WATER QUALITY PLAN. THE COUNCIL
5 MAY SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER PERSONS AND MAY HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS
6 TO GATHER INPUT FROM INTERESTED PARTIES.

7 (2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ANNUALLY SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE
8 GOVERNOR AND TO THE STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE LEGISLATURE WITH
9 PRIMARY JURISDICTION OVER ISSUES PERTAINING TO NATURAL RESOURCES
10 AND THE ENVIRONMENT THAT INCLUDES THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
11 OF THE COUNCIL.