

HOUSE BILL No. 5457

January 30, 2018, Introduced by Rep. Cochran and referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

A bill to designate the last Saturday in September as Public Lands Day in this state.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. (1) This state is home to 103 state parks and
2 recreation areas covering 306,000 acres with 314,100 campsites in
3 142 campgrounds and with over 900 miles of trails. These state
4 parks and recreation areas offer a range of activities from
5 traditional outdoor activities such as camping, hunting, and
6 fishing, to new and emerging activities such as mountain biking,
7 cross-country skiing, adventure racing, whitewater paddling, and
8 playing water sports. This state is also home to 4 state forests,
9 encompassing over 3.8 million acres of land, that are managed for
10 resource protection, natural resource based economic activity, and

1 recreation. The acreage of state forest in this state is greater
2 than the acreage in any other state east of the Mississippi. In
3 recognition of the importance of federal, state, and local public
4 lands to the wildlife, recreation, and economy of this state, the
5 legislature declares that the last Saturday in September of each
6 year shall be known as "Public Lands Day".

7 (2) The legislature encourages individuals to engage in
8 activities on Public Lands Day that contribute to the conservation
9 of public lands in this state.

10 Enacting section 1. This act takes effect 90 days after the
11 date it is enacted into law.

12 Enacting section 2. This act does not take effect unless
13 Senate Bill No. ____ or House Bill No. 5458 (request no. 03838'17) of
14 the 99th Legislature is enacted into law.