

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.165

Reps. Coleman, Brixie, Bolden, Haadsma, Cambensy, Hope, Love, Wittenberg, Garza, Hammoud, Cynthia Johnson, Shannon, Stone, Pohutsky, Sowerby, Koleszar, Manoogian, Sneller, Pagan, Greig, Garrett, Sabo, Anthony, Chirkun, Clemente, Guerra, Witwer, Tyrone Carter, Rabhi, Kennedy, Elder, Hertel, Lasinski, Cherry, Warren, Webber, Brann, Griffin, Tate, VanSingel, Robinson, Bollin, Hood, Kahle and Liberati offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare September 22-29, 2019, as Michigan
2 Trails Week in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Michigan's wealth of trails provides an abundance of
4 opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy our state's
5 spectacular natural resources. Michigan is known as The Trails
6 State because of the more than 12,500 miles of designated land
7 trails and 4,280 miles of locally-designated water trails; and



1 Whereas, The state's trail system is the result of a
2 successful partnership between state agencies, local trails groups,
3 local units of government, non-profit organizations, and businesses
4 all over the state coming together to connect communities and
5 people; and

6 Whereas, Our trail systems are designed to accommodate both
7 motorized and nonmotorized in appropriate areas to allow for a
8 variety of uses and, through a carefully-designed master plan, will
9 continue to reflect emerging trail needs in the state while also
10 striving to meet the number one recreational need of citizens for
11 more miles of trails at the local level; and

12 Whereas, Destination trails continue to be an emerging need to
13 attract both residents and out-of-state visitors; and

14 Whereas, Great Lake-to-Lake Trails Route #1 will be the
15 state's first fully-marked destination trail stretching from South
16 Haven to Port Huron. When ultimately completed, the Iron Belle
17 Trail, stretching from Belle Isle in Detroit to Ironwood in the
18 western Upper Peninsula, will also be a destination trail and one
19 of the longest such trails in the nation; and

20 Whereas, The state's trails and trail towns are prominently
21 featured in the new Pure Michigan Trail Designation program that
22 will be helpful in promoting the state's specially-designated
23 trails. Our state's trail system plays a significant role in
24 strengthening Michigan's economy and supporting thousands of jobs,
25 primarily through small-business owners; and

26 Whereas, The state's trail system provides residents with
27 broad access to a low-cost, accessible, and enjoyable way to
28 improve health and reduce obesity; and

29 Whereas, Trail-related activities, including hiking, walking,

1 snowmobiling, running, biking, horseback riding, cross-country
2 skiing, paddling and using off-road vehicles, are among the most
3 popular and growing means of outdoor enjoyment; and

4 Whereas, The state of Michigan hosts more than 5,000 miles of
5 hiking trails designed for walkers, hikers, trails runners, and
6 other outdoor enthusiasts to explore the state's natural areas,
7 including 1,200 miles of the nation's longest National Scenic
8 Trail, the North Country National Scenic Trail; and

9 Whereas, Michigan is also known as one of the top states for
10 mountain biking, with an unmatched diversity of trail systems and
11 over 1,600 miles of natural surface trails; and

12 Whereas, The Department of Natural Resources, working in
13 conjunction with the Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance, has
14 established a new water trail designation process that resulted in
15 eight new water trail designations this past year and will continue
16 to designate new inland water trails in the future; and

17 Whereas, The existence of quality trails helps to strengthen
18 the appeal of communities by boosting quality-of-life amenities
19 that attract businesses and increase property values. Trails
20 provide alternative, scenic transportation routes that help to
21 decrease road congestion and pollution and serve to connect
22 communities to each other; now, therefore, be it

23 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
24 this legislative body declare September 22-29, 2019, as Michigan
25 Trails Week in the state of Michigan; and be it further

26 Resolved, That Michigan's rich network of trails throughout
27 the Upper and Lower Peninsulas continue to provide residents and
28 visitors with scenic spaces to explore nature, appreciate wildlife,
29 experience solitude, or enjoy time with family and friends.