

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 64

Senators Bumstead, Lucido, Bizon, Wojno, Outman, Bayer, Victory, VanderWall and Hollier, Alexander, Ananich, Brinks, Bullock, Johnson, MacDonald, McBroom, McCann, McMorrow and Santana offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to recognize July 2019 as Michigan Wildlife
2 Conservation Month.

3 Whereas, Michigan's natural beauty, abundant wildlife, and
4 plentiful waters are enjoyed from Belle Isle to Baraga by millions
5 of residents and visitors, and should be preserved and protected
6 for future generations; and

7 Whereas, Hunters and fishermen were among the first
8 conservationists, pushing for active wildlife management and
9 conservation to ensure wildlife would flourish forever; and

1 Whereas, Science-based wildlife management and conservation
2 decisions such as actively enhancing habitat, monitoring wildlife
3 populations, preventing the spread of disease, and regulating
4 hunting and fishing seasons help balance our use of natural
5 resources with the needs of Michigan's wildlife; and

6 Whereas, As a result of these protections, regulations, and
7 extensive conservation efforts, Michigan populations of elk, wild
8 turkey, white-tailed deer, lake sturgeon, and many other species
9 have rebounded from near extinction; 11,000 inland lakes and 36,000
10 miles of rivers and streams are safeguarded from invasive species;
11 abundant wildlife habitat and wildfire risk are improved by forest
12 management; and

13 Whereas, July 1, 2019, marks the eighty-first anniversary of
14 the effective date for the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in
15 Wildlife Restoration Act, which provides funding for wildlife
16 management projects across the nation through the purchase of
17 hunting equipment; and

18 Whereas, Hunting and fishing licenses, not state taxes,
19 provide tens of millions of dollars each year for wildlife
20 conservation; and

21 Whereas, Annually, hunters and anglers contribute \$11.2
22 billion to Michigan's economy and create 171,000 jobs, making those
23 combined activities one of the state's top 10 job-creating
24 industries, according to a recent study by the Michigan United
25 Conservation Clubs; and

26 Whereas, This resolution coincides with the fifth anniversary
27 of the creation of the Michigan Wildlife Council, a bipartisan-
28 approved panel entrusted with educating the public about the
29 importance of wildlife management in preserving Michigan's outdoor

1 heritage for future generations; and

2 Whereas, In large part because of the council's activities,
3 more Michiganders than ever before are aware of the essential role
4 hunting and fishing play in conserving, managing, and protecting
5 Michigan's wildlife; now, therefore, be it

6 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
7 body recognize July 2019 as Michigan Wildlife Conservation Month;
8 and be it further

9 Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the
10 Michigan Wildlife Council.