

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.137

Reps. Cole, Love, Cherry, Leutheuser, Howell, Ellison, Slagh, O'Malley, Bellino, VanSingel, Meerman, Lightner and Alexander offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare July 2019 as Wildlife Conservation
2 Month in the state of Michigan.

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 for
6 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

10 Whereas, Science-based wildlife management and conservation
11 decisions such as actively enhancing habitat, monitoring wildlife



1 populations, preventing the spread of disease, and regulating
2 hunting and fishing seasons help balance our use of natural
3 resources with the needs of Michigan's wildlife; and

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

11 Whereas, July 1 marks the 81st anniversary of the effective
12 date for the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration
13 Act, which provides funding for wildlife management projects across
14 the nation through the purchase of hunting equipment; and

15 Whereas, Hunting and fishing licenses, not state taxes,
16 provide tens of millions of dollars each year for wildlife
17 conservation; and

18 Whereas, Hunters and anglers annually contribute \$11.2 billion
19 to Michigan's economy and create 171,000 jobs, making the combined
20 activities one of the state's top 10 job-creating industries,
21 according to a recent Michigan United Conservation Clubs study; and

22 Whereas, This year is the fifth anniversary of the creation of
23 the Michigan Wildlife Council, a bipartisan-approved panel
24 entrusted with educating the public about the importance of
25 wildlife management in preserving Michigan's outdoor heritage for
26 future generations; and

27 Whereas, In large part because of the council's activities,
28 more Michiganders than ever are aware of the essential role hunting
29 and fishing play in conserving, managing, and protecting Michigan's

1 wildlife; now, therefore, be it

2 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
3 this legislative body declare July 2019 as Wildlife Conservation
4 Month in the state of Michigan; and be it further

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