

# 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 and Robinson 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.