

RESOLUTION NO. 11-2007-02

**RESOLUTION OF
THE CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR MICHIGAN STATE PARKS
TO SUPPORT ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT
OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DNR)**

ADOPTED: November 28, 2007

WHEREAS, the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks was created and established under Public Act 392 of 2004 to, among other things, advise and make recommendations to the Governor, the Natural Resources Commission, and the Legislature on state parks policy, and to advise on financial planning and pursue adequate budget support for state parks; and

WHEREAS, per capita spending by Michigan on conservation and environmental protection has fallen to 50th among all the states; and

WHEREAS, Michigan's natural resources are recognized as globally significant to the health and well-being of the environment, including the citizens of the Great Lakes Region; and

WHEREAS, multiple years of spending cuts to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) budget have resulted in the fewest number of DNR employees in more than 30 years; and

WHEREAS, the current 2008 budget cuts will soon cause further, widespread DNR layoffs; and

WHEREAS, layoffs of full-time employees may mean no seasonal help can be hired for the Michigan State Parks system, resulting in the closing of numerous state parks; and

WHEREAS, DNR budgets will adversely affect the number of conservation officers, wild land firefighters and other vital programs; and

WHEREAS, Michigan State Parks have inadequate funds for capital expenditures and routine maintenance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks advise the Legislature to immediately revise the 2008 DNR budget to fully fund all programs to ensure the protection of Michigan's precious natural resources for the use and enjoyment of this and future generations of Michigan citizens.

Submitted by: Chris Graham, Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks

Motioned by: Chris Graham
Seconded by: Betsy Clark

Yeas: 12
Nays: 0
Absent: 4

This Resolution was adopted by the Citizens Committee for Michigan State Parks on November 28, 2007.