



Great Lakes Legislative Caucus

2017 Annual Meeting of the Great Lakes Legislative Caucus

*Radisson Admiral Hotel Toronto-Harbourfront
Toronto, Ontario
September 22-23, 2017*

Resolution in Support of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

- WHEREAS,** the nonpartisan, binational Great Lakes Legislative Caucus (GLLC) supports the continued bipartisan work of the Great Lakes Region's Congressional Delegation in its efforts to secure a continuation of funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI);
- WHEREAS,** the Great Lakes Legislative Caucus echoes the sentiments of U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt that the GLRI is "protecting public health in the Great Lakes more than any other coordinated interagency effort in U.S. history";
- WHEREAS,** the GLRI is absolutely critical to maintaining the environmental and economic health of the Great Lakes, which provide 84% of North America's fresh surface water and create millions of family-supporting jobs for Americans and Canadians; and
- WHEREAS,** funding under the GLRI is responsible for the complete restoration of three polluted sites in Michigan and Pennsylvania, while significant progress has been made at another 13 sites in those states as well as in Wisconsin, Indiana, Ohio, New York, and Illinois; and
- WHEREAS,** the incredible environmental recovery of the Great Lakes, and the economic benefit to coastal communities that result from this environmental restoration, will **not** continue without the projects enabled by the GLRI; and
- WHEREAS,** continued funding of the GLRI is critical to the economic and environmental viability of the Great Lakes Region and to successfully fulfilling the United States' commitments expressed in the 2012 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement; and
- WHEREAS,** state and local government efforts to protect Great Lakes resources and maintain important wildlife habitats are tied to the availability of federal GLRI funds; and
- WHEREAS,** a workforce that does not have reliable access to clean, safe drinking water cannot hope to thrive or reach its full potential; now, therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** as Great Lakes legislators, the Great Lakes Legislative Caucus urges President Donald Trump to reconsider his fiscal year 2018 budget proposal to eliminate funding for the GLRI; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that the GLRI continue to be funded at \$300 million annually; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that this resolution be submitted to appropriate state, provincial, and federal officials.

Adopted on September 23, 2017.

