SENATE BILL No. 857

December 2, 2003, Introduced by Senator BISHOP and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled

"Natural resources and environmental protection act,"

by amending section 72105a (MCL 324.72105a), as added by 1997 PA

129.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1   Sec. 72105a.   (1) The department shall establish an

2 "adopt-a-trail" program that will allow volunteer groups to

3 assist in maintaining and enhancing Michigan trailways and

4 rail-trails.

5   (2) Subject to subsection (3), volunteer groups in the

6 adopt-a-trail program may adopt any available Michigan trailway

7 or rail-trail or Michigan trailway or rail-trail segment and may

8 choose any 1 or more of the following volunteer activities:

9   (a) Spring cleanups.

10   (b) Environmental activities.

1   (c) Accessibility projects.

2   (d) Special events.

3   (e) Trailway maintenance and development.

4   (f) Public information and assistance.

5   (g) Training.

6   (3) The department shall designate the activities to be

7 performed by a volunteer group in the adopt-a-trail program. The

8 department may provide for more than 1 volunteer group to adopt a

9 Michigan trailway or rail-trail or Michigan trailway or

10 rail-trail segment.

11   (4) A volunteer group that wishes to participate in the

12 adopt-a-trail program shall submit an application to the

13 department on a form provided by the department. Additionally,

14 volunteer groups shall agree to the following:

15   (a) Volunteer groups shall participate in the program for at

16 least a 2-year period.

17   (b) Volunteer groups shall consist of at least 6 people who

18 are 18 years of age or older, unless the volunteer group is a

19 school or scout organization, in which case the volunteers may be

20 under 18 years of age.

21   (c) Volunteer groups shall contribute a total of at least 400

22 service hours over a 2-year period.

23   (d) Volunteer groups shall comply with other reasonable

24 requirements of the department.

25   (5) A state park manager or a district forest manager may

26 issue to volunteers who are actively working on adopt-a-trail

27 projects that last more than 1 day free camping permits if

1 campsites are available. A state park manager or a district

2 forest manager may waive state park entry fees for volunteers

3 entering state parks to work on adopt-a-trail projects.

4   (6) While a volunteer is working on an adopt-a-trail project,

5 the volunteer has the same immunity from civil liability as a

6 department employee and shall be treated in the same manner as an

7 employee under section 8 of 1964 PA 170, MCL 691.1408.

8   (7) The department shall design and erect near the entrance

9 of each Michigan trailway or rail-trail in the adopt-a-trail

10 program or along the trailway an adopt-a-trail program sign with

11 the name of the volunteer group's sponsoring organization listed

12 for each volunteer group that has contributed at least 100

13 service hours by volunteers.

14   **(8) The department shall provide a volunteer group conducting**

15 **litter cleanup efforts under the adopt-a-trail program with data**

16 **information sheets and shall request that the volunteer group**

17 **record on the data information sheets a general characterization**

18 **of the types and amount of trash collected during the group's**

19 **cleanup effort. The department shall request the group to**

20 **forward the data information sheets to travel Michigan on**

21 **completion.**

22   **(9) Travel Michigan shall compile information obtained from**

23 **data information sheets received under subsection (8) and shall**

24 **use this information in developing and administering the**

25 **antilitter marketing program under section 8913.**

26   Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect

27 unless all of the following bills of the 92nd Legislature are

1 enacted into law:

2   (a) Senate Bill No. 721.

3   (b) Senate Bill No. 856.

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