

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 194

Rep. Anthony offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare November 15-21, 2021, as Recycling  
2 Week in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, We all hold the responsibility to future generations  
4 to ensure they have the ability and right to live in a clean and  
5 sustainable Michigan; and

6 Whereas, Michigan's recycling rate is around only 15% when the  
7 national recycling rate is 32%; and

8 Whereas, Recycling not only has a positive impact on the  
9 environment, but also provides an economic benefit. Research shows  
10 that recycling and reuse activities nationwide accounted for  
11 681,000 jobs and \$37.8 billion in wages. A 2017 state recycling  
12 report states that over \$600 million recoverable materials end up  
13 in landfills, costing the state of Michigan over 1 billion dollars;

1 and

2           Whereas, In the year 2020, the total waste disposal in  
3 Michigan landfills was reported at 52,697,247 cubic yards; and

4           Whereas, Recycling conserves resources such as timber, water,  
5 and minerals. Recycling protects the environment by reducing the  
6 amount of waste in landfills and combustion facilities, as well as  
7 the amount of plastic in Michigan's waterways; and

8           Whereas, Approximately 9,887 metric tons of plastic debris per  
9 year enter the Laurentian Great Lakes. The Great Lakes make up  
10 about 21% of the world's supply of surface fresh water and 84% of  
11 North America's surface fresh water; and

12           Whereas, It is estimated that 138,000 new jobs would be  
13 created if Michigan's recycling rate tripled to 45%. This would  
14 provide \$9 billion in annual labor income and \$33.8 billion in  
15 economic output. This would also eliminate emission of an  
16 additional 7 million metric ton equivalent of carbon dioxide; and

17           Whereas, We celebrate Michiganders' continued dedication to  
18 reduce, reuse, and recycle; now, therefore, be it

19           Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
20 this legislative body declare November 15-21, 2021, as Recycling  
21 Week in the state of Michigan. We demonstrate our state's  
22 commitment to sustainability. The act of recycling, both at the  
23 individual and industrial level, help support a healthier and more  
24 economically prosperous Michigan.