

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 172

Reps. Witwer, Bollin, Haadsma, Hill, Lightner, Paiz, Schuette and Thompson offered the following resolution:

1           A resolution to declare January 28-February 3, 2024, as  
2 Wetland Conservation Week in the state of Michigan.

3           Whereas, Ducks Unlimited, Incorporated was founded in 1937,  
4 when the drought-plagued waterfowl populations of North America  
5 plunged to unprecedented lows; and

6           Whereas, After decades of commitment to conserving waterfowl  
7 habitats, Ducks Unlimited has become the largest private  
8 organization for waterfowl and wetlands conservation worldwide and  
9 one of the most effective private organizations dedicated to that  
10 cause; and

11           Whereas, Since the founding of Ducks Unlimited, the

1 organization has conserved and protected more than 90,000 acres of  
2 waterfowl habitat in Michigan; and

3       Whereas, Ducks Unlimited has nearly 30,000 passionate members  
4 in communities all across Michigan; and

5       Whereas, Since the founding of Ducks Unlimited, the  
6 organization has invested over \$55 million on nearly five hundred  
7 individual projects throughout the state, benefitting wildlife,  
8 enhancing recreational opportunity, and supporting Michigan's  
9 robust outdoor economy; and

10       Whereas, Ducks Unlimited wetland projects also benefit  
11 communities by providing lifesaving flood storage capabilities,  
12 groundwater recharge, and water quality improvements associated  
13 with the natural water filtration that wetlands provide; and

14       Whereas, Ducks Unlimited maintains the vital mission of  
15 conserving, restoring, and managing wetlands and associated  
16 habitats for the waterfowl of North America, a mission that also  
17 benefits other wildlife and people; now, therefore, be it

18       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
19 this legislative body declare January 28-February 3, 2024, as  
20 Wetland Conservation Week in the state of Michigan. We support  
21 collaborative wetland conservation efforts on public and private  
22 lands that promote hunting and fishing as well as a wide array of  
23 recreational pursuits; and be it further

24       Resolved, That we recognize the important contributions of  
25 Ducks Unlimited, Incorporated, and its members across Michigan to  
26 the conservation of wetlands and associated habitats and to the  
27 waterfowl of North America, as their ecosystem services are  
28 critical to sustaining and improving quality of life in Michigan.