

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 172

Rep. Witwer 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
12 organization has conserved and protected more than 90,000 acres of

1 waterfowl habitat in Michigan; and

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

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

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

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

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

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