

Senator Hansen offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 64.

A resolution to declare August 2011 as Camping and Recreational Vehicle Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, For generations, Michigan has been welcoming campers to its woodlands, freshwater shoreline, and inland lakes and streams in two distinct peninsulas, nestled in the middle of the Great Lakes Region; and

Whereas, Michigan has more than 950 licensed private recreational vehicle parks and campgrounds, with more than 111,000 licensed camp sites, and more than 160 county- or government-operated campgrounds, with over 14,700 sites around the state from rustic to full-service; and

Whereas, Michigan is home to 98 state parks and recreation areas--as well as 133 state forest campgrounds--under the auspices of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and 7 forests, parks, and lakeshores in Michigan under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Forest Service, collectively offering 15,000 sites on state and federal lands designated for camping; and

Whereas, Camping is a key contributor to the state's overall tourism industry of more than \$17 billion, offering a true Pure Michigan experience; and

Whereas, Camping also encourages visitors and locals alike to partake in activities such as boating, fishing, hunting, snowmobiling, paddling, pedaling, geocaching, nature watching, photography, and other outdoor activities, which also highlight Michigan's great outdoors; and

Whereas, Michigan boasts of two nonprofit organizations, the Association of RV Parks & Campgrounds of Michigan and the Michigan Association of Recreational Vehicles & Campgrounds, which equally promote and support private campground and RV parks throughout the state. They distribute hundreds of thousands of free camping directories at RV and outdoor shows, statewide chambers of commerce, libraries, lawmakers' offices, RV sales businesses, campgrounds, and the state of Michigan Travel Information Centers; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body declare August 2011 as Camping and Recreational Vehicle Month in the state of Michigan. We encourage all citizens to take advantage of our great state's array of sun, freshwater coastline, woodlands, soft breezes, and fresh air, where the temperate climate allows for great camping and outdoor recreation.