

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 207

Reps. Cambensy, Markkanen, Gay-Dagnogo, Kuppa, Crawford, Hertel, Cherry, Elder, Haadsma, Robinson, Byrd, Yancey, Kennedy, Stone, Cynthia Johnson, Garza, Liberati, Tyrone Carter, Shannon, Bolden, Koleszar, Sowerby, Lasinski, Camilleri, Warren, Sabo, Chirkun, LaFave, Marino, Rabhi, Jones and Love offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to commemorate December 14, 2019, as the 183rd
2 birthday of the Upper Peninsula in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Before Michigan statehood, there existed a dispute
4 between officials in the territory of Michigan and state of Ohio
5 over the rightful claim to land known as the Toledo Strip; and

6 Whereas, In 1836, federal legislation was enacted, signed into
7 law by President Andrew Jackson, that established the boundaries of
8 the new state of Michigan, granting the Toledo Strip to the state



1 of Ohio and granting the entire area now known as the Upper
2 Peninsula to the state of Michigan. In enacting the legislation,
3 Congress established a final condition before Michigan statehood—
4 “the assent of a convention of delegates elected by the people” of
5 Michigan to the proposed boundaries; and

6 Whereas, The first convention of delegates that assembled in
7 Michigan in September of 1836 rejected the boundaries proposed by
8 Congress, declaring it an injustice that the boundaries included
9 the Upper Peninsula instead of Toledo; and

10 Whereas, Fortunately, a new convention of delegates was
11 quickly assembled by Michigan territorial governor Stevens T. Mason
12 in Ann Arbor. On December 14, 1836, in what is now known as the
13 Frostbitten Convention because of the cold temperatures that day,
14 the gathering unanimously agreed to the boundaries as set by
15 Congress, thereby meeting the final condition for statehood and
16 ensuring that Michigan state boundaries would include the entirety
17 of the Upper Peninsula; and

18 Whereas, On January 26, 1837, with the assent of the
19 convention of delegates received, Michigan became the 26th state in
20 the union, without the approximately 500 square miles of the Toledo
21 Strip but with the approximately 16,500 square miles of the
22 beautiful and resource-rich Upper Peninsula; and

23 Whereas, On September 9, 2016, more than one hundred citizens
24 and historians gathered at the Sonderegger Symposium XVI, sponsored
25 by the Center for Upper Peninsula Studies at Northern Michigan
26 University, and unanimously agreed to a resolution declaring
27 December 14, the date of the Frostbitten Convention, as the
28 official birthday of the Upper Peninsula; now, therefore, be it

29 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of

1 this legislative body commemorate December 14, 2019, as the 183rd
2 birthday of the Upper Peninsula in the state of Michigan; and be it
3 further

4 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
5 Marquette Regional History Center and the Peter White Public
6 Library.