

**SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 627**

A bill to provide for the recovery or replacement of durable monuments defining the Michigan-Indiana state line; to create a commission; to provide for the powers and duties of certain state and local governmental officers and agencies; and to repeal acts and parts of acts.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1           Sec. 1. This act may be cited as the "Michigan-Indiana state  
2 line monumentation act".

3           Sec. 3. As used in this act:

4           (a) "Commission" means the Michigan-Indiana state line  
5 commission established in section 5(1).

6           (b) "Monument" means a relatively permanent physical marker.

7           Sec. 5. (1) The Michigan-Indiana state line commission is



1 established.

2 (2) The commission consists of 10 members, 5 from the state of  
3 Indiana and 5 from this state, who shall be known as state line  
4 commissioners. The 5 members from the state of Indiana shall be  
5 appointed under the laws of the state of Indiana. The 5 members  
6 from this state are the elected county surveyors of Berrien County,  
7 Cass County, St. Joseph County, Branch County, and Hillsdale County  
8 and shall serve ex officio.

9 (3) The first meeting of the commission shall be called by the  
10 director of the department of licensing and regulatory affairs. At  
11 the first meeting of the commission, the commission shall elect  
12 from among its members a chairperson and other officers as it  
13 considers necessary or appropriate. After the first meeting, the  
14 commission shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently at the  
15 call of the chairperson or if requested by 6 or more members.

16 (4) A majority of the members of the commission appointed from  
17 this state and a majority of the members of the commission  
18 appointed from the state of Indiana, together, constitute a quorum  
19 for transacting business. A vote in favor by a majority of the  
20 members serving is required for any action of the commission.

21 (5) The commission shall conduct its business in compliance  
22 with the open meetings act, 1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275.

23 (6) A writing that is prepared, owned, used, possessed, or  
24 retained by the commission in performing an official function is  
25 subject to the freedom of information act, 1976 PA 442, MCL 15.231  
26 to 15.246.

27 (7) A member of the commission appointed from this state is  
28 not entitled to compensation for service on the commission but may  
29 be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in



1 serving.

2 Sec. 7. The commission shall do all of the following:

3 (a) Administer a survey and remonumentation of the Michigan-  
4 Indiana state line.

5 (b) Recover or reestablish monuments at the mileposts and  
6 intermediate monument control points of the Michigan-Indiana state  
7 line as established in the 1827 federal survey that defined that  
8 line. The commission also shall recover or reestablish monuments at  
9 the posts originally set at or near the shores of lakes and large  
10 rivers of the Michigan-Indiana state line as established in the  
11 1827 federal survey, or witness corners for set posts. The  
12 commission shall review the survey upon completion of each  
13 milepost.

14 (c) Compile appropriate records and documents verifying the  
15 location of the mileposts, and process those records and documents  
16 through the state survey and remonumentation commission created in  
17 section 3 of the state survey and remonumentation act, 1990 PA 345,  
18 MCL 54.263.

19 (d) Resolve any differences revealed by the survey between  
20 record documents and recovered evidence regarding the location of  
21 mileposts defining the Michigan-Indiana state line.

22 Sec. 9. (1) Upon completion of the survey and remonumentation,  
23 the commission shall submit the survey to the legislature of this  
24 state for approval by public act.

25 (2) If the legislature approves the survey, for each milepost  
26 or the posts originally set at or near the shores of lakes or large  
27 rivers determined under this act, the commission shall do both of  
28 the following:

29 (a) File with the appropriate county register of deeds a land



1 corner recordation certificate under the state corner recordation  
2 act, 1970 PA 74, MCL 54.201 to 54.210d, that provides appropriate  
3 references and Michigan state plane coordinates.

4 (b) File a copy of the certificate under subdivision (a) with  
5 the state survey and remonumentation commission created under  
6 section 3 of the state survey and remonumentation act, 1990 PA 345,  
7 MCL 54.263.

8 Sec. 11. The commission shall procure professional surveying  
9 services through negotiated contracts. The commission shall award  
10 contracts only to persons incorporated in this state or with a  
11 principal place of business in this state.

12 Sec. 13. This act is repealed effective January 1, 2026.

