

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 77

Reps. VanWoerkom, Slagh, Alexander, Arbit, Fox, Greene,
Snyder, Witwer and Woolford offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution urging Illinois Governor JB Pritzker to resume
2 construction of the Brandon Road Interbasin Project to prevent the
3 spread of Asian carp into the Great Lakes.

4 Whereas, Asian carp were introduced in the southern United
5 States in the 1970s to control algae blooms and aquatic weeds for
6 aquaculture and wastewater treatment. Flood waters over the past
7 few decades have allowed these species to escape into waterways,
8 including the Mississippi River; and

9 Whereas, Asian carp species such as the bighead, silver,
10 grass, and black carps are not native to North America and have
11 become a highly invasive species in the waterways where they are
12 located. Asian carp can grow up to sixty pounds and can eat up to
13 forty percent of their weight each day, leading to outcompeting

1 native species for food sources and harming local ecologies; and

2 Whereas, Bighead and silver carp have been located within
3 forty-seven miles of Lake Michigan in the Des Plaines River,
4 putting the seven-billion-dollar Great Lakes commercial and
5 recreational fishing industry in jeopardy; and

6 Whereas, The state of Illinois and the state of Michigan
7 signed a partnership agreement with the United States Army Corps of
8 Engineers Rock Island District to begin construction on the Brandon
9 Road Interbasin Project (BRIP) to prevent upstream movement of
10 invasive carp into the Great Lakes; and

11 Whereas, The BRIP is funded with a combination of funds from
12 the federal government, the state of Illinois, and the state of
13 Michigan. The state of Michigan has already contributed seventy-
14 three and a half million dollars to the BRIP over the past five
15 years; and

16 Whereas, In February 2025, Governor Pritzker postponed the
17 first phase of the BRIP's construction due to concerns about the
18 availability of federal funding to move forward with the project;
19 and

20 Whereas, President Trump, on April 9, 2025, publicly pledged
21 to save Lake Michigan from invasive Asian carp, as he understands
22 the economic and environmental catastrophe that this species would
23 wreak across our Great Lakes without this protective project; and

24 Whereas, We share President Trump's support for the BRIP and
25 the continuation of the project to prevent movement of Asian carp
26 into the Great Lakes; now, therefore, be it

27 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge
28 Illinois Governor JB Pritzker to resume construction of the Brandon
29 Road Interbasin Project to prevent the spread of Asian carp into

1 the Great Lakes; and be it further

2 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
3 President of the United States, the Governor of Michigan, and the
4 Governor of Illinois.