## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 93

Reps. Maddock and Hall offered the following resolution: A resolution to urge all public bodies in the state of 1 Michigan to adopt the term "Gulf of America" in place of "Gulf of 2 3 Mexico" in all official communications, publications, and references, and to call for immediate steps to implement this 4 change by July 4, 2025. 5 Whereas, The terms used in official government documents 6 7 reflect our identity, priorities, and shared values. Public bodies, including departments, boards, commissions, offices, agencies, and 8 other units of state government, have an obligation to serve the 9 public interest and reflect the values of the people they 10 11 represent; and 12 Whereas, The term "Gulf of Mexico," while historically used to describe the ocean basin along the southeastern coast of the United 13 States, does not fully capture the deep and ongoing connection of 14

- 1 the United States to this vital body of water. This inadequacy was
- 2 recognized by the President of the United States in Executive Order
- 3 No. 14,172, which directs that the "Gulf of Mexico" be officially
- 4 renamed the "Gulf of America." The executive order directs the
- 5 Secretary of the Interior to take all appropriate actions to
- 6 effectuate the renaming of the gulf and to update all applicable
- 7 federal records, signaling a national commitment to restoring place
- 8 names that reflect American heritage and values; and
- 9 Whereas, The state of Michigan should begin using the name
- 10 "Gulf of America" rather than the name "Gulf of Mexico." Aligning
- 11 with federal terminology and naming directives promotes clarity,
- 12 consistency, and coordination between state and federal agencies.
- 13 Moreover, the adoption of the term "Gulf of America" in official
- 14 communications affirms our American identity and reinforces our
- 15 cultural and geographical ties to the region; now, therefore, be it
- 16 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge all
- 17 public bodies in the state of Michigan including departments,
- 18 boards, commissions, offices, agencies, and other governmental
- 19 units to adopt the term "Gulf of America" in place of "Gulf of
- 20 Mexico" in all official communications, publications, and
- 21 references by no later than July 4, 2025; and be it further
- 22 Resolved, That we call upon the Governor, the Secretary of
- 23 State, and the heads of all other state departments and agencies to
- 24 take immediate administrative steps to begin implementing this
- 25 change and ensure consistent usage across all state documents and
- 26 platforms; and be it further
- 27 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
- 28 Governor, the Secretary of State, and the director of each other
- 29 state department for immediate consideration and action.