

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 77

Reps. VanWoerkom and Slagh 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  
14 native species for food sources and harming local ecologies; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

26       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge  
27       Illinois Governor JB Pritzker to resume construction of the Brandon  
28       Road Interbasin Project to prevent the spread of Asian carp into  
29       the Great Lakes; and be it further

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