

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 93

Reps. Maddock and Hall offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to urge all public bodies in the state of
2 Michigan to adopt the term "Gulf of America" in place of "Gulf of
3 Mexico" in all official communications, publications, and
4 references, and to call for immediate steps to implement this
5 change by July 4, 2025.

6 Whereas, The terms used in official government documents
7 reflect our identity, priorities, and shared values. Public bodies,
8 including departments, boards, commissions, offices, agencies, and
9 other units of state government, have an obligation to serve the
10 public interest and reflect the values of the people they
11 represent; and

12 Whereas, The term "Gulf of Mexico," while historically used to
13 describe the ocean basin along the southeastern coast of the United
14 States, does not fully capture the deep and ongoing connection of

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.