



**Committee of Advisors
to the
Great Lakes Fishery Commission**



**A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION OF PROPOSED FUNDING CUTS TO THE
GREAT LAKES RESTORATION INITIATIVE**

WHEREAS, in June of 2015 the U.S. and Canadian Committees of Advisors to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission unanimously passed a resolution calling for permanent funding of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI);

WHEREAS, the 114th Congress and the President of the United States authorized the GLRI with broad, bipartisan support;

WHEREAS, the GLRI helps the United States live up to its commitments under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, and any reductions to EPA or any proposal to relocate or close a Great Lakes-based EPA office would severely harm the Water Quality Agreement;

WHEREAS, the needs for restoration funding for the Great Lakes continues to be of critical importance to the health and economy of the Great Lakes fisheries and of the 50 million inhabitants of the Great Lakes watershed;

WHEREAS, the recent 2018 budget proposal by the Executive Branch of the U.S. Government eliminates funding for the GLRI;

WHEREAS, the proposed elimination of funding will bring a complete halt to the remedial work being done to restore the Great Lakes watershed, its fisheries, and its habitat; and

WHEREAS, the continued health of the Great Lakes, its inhabitants, and its fisheries are threatened by the cessation of GLRI funding and this remedial work.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the US Advisors to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission call on Congress to restore GLRI funding to a level of \$300 million dollars annually to continue the restoration work that is so vital to our region's economy, ecology and quality of life.

Passed unanimously

19 May 2017

U.S. Committee of Advisors

The Committee of Advisors consists of both U.S. and Canadian representatives, from First Nation, commercial, recreational, academic, agency, and public fishery interests in the Great Lakes Basin. Advisors provide advice to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission; U.S. advisors are nominated by the State Governors, and appointed by the commission. Canadian advisors are nominated by the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources and appointed by the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada.