

Cath Petroskey

From: Chris Bunch <cbunch@sixriversrlc.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 3, 2016 10:49 AM
To: Rep. Andrea LaFontaine; Rep. Anthony Forlini (District 24); Rep. Ken Goike; Rep. Lisa Lyons; Rep. Bruce Rendon; Rep. Ed McBroom; Rep. Julie Plawecki (District 11); Rep. Charles Smiley; Rep. John Kivela (District 109); Rep. Tom Leonard (District 93); Speaker Kevin Cotter; Rep. Aric Nesbitt Office (District 66); Rep. Tim Greimel (District 29); Rep. Sam Singh (District 69); Cath Petroskey
Subject: HB 5255 & HB 5166, 5167, and 5168

Dear Representatives and committee members,

As a Michigan native, avid fisherman and hunter and someone who has been active as a volunteer and professional in conservation in Michigan for over 25 years I want to register my support for HB 5255 prohibiting fish farming in the Great Lakes, and opposition to HB 5166, 5167, and 5168, which would deregulate fish farming.

I run an organization that exists to help conserve natural resources and that invests substantial effort focused on protecting the quality of our Great Lakes. In addition to protecting land that preserves water quality in the lakes, rivers and streams that feed the Great lakes, as well as protecting and providing access to Great Lakes shoreline, we invest substantial effort in stewardship and battling invasive species. Given the wide range of negative impacts that are being addressed in the Great Lakes from invasive species, pollution and other influences, there is simply no justification to add additional stresses or risks to the system.

On behalf of all of the residents of Michigan and the billions of dollars being invested in restoring and sustaining the quality of the Great Lakes and our world class fisheries, I urge you to strongly and steadfastly defend these resources by prohibiting fish farming in the Great Lakes and ensuring that all aquaculture activities receive substantial oversight to ensure there are no negative impacts to our Great Lakes.

Sincerely,

Chris Bunch, Executive Director
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"We conserve, sustain and connect natural areas,
lands and waters that make the places we live special."

