Resolution to Protect the Great Lakes

The city/village of ________________ finds as follows:

1. The Great Lakes are currently being threatened by an invasive species of fish known as Asian carp; and

2. This type of fish crowds out native species of fish by eating enormous amounts of food that native fish rely on and can quickly dominate the waterways due to their large size; and

3. If the carp make their way into the Great Lakes, they will pose a serious threat to tourism in Michigan and permanently damage the region’s estimated $7 billion fishing industry; and

4. In addition to creating an ecological disaster if they enter the Great Lakes, Asian carp pose a risk to people since they are easily startled and at times jump out of the water when startled, presenting a hazard to boaters, anglers and water skiers; and

5. There have been efforts to seek immediate solutions to this threat to the Great Lakes by measures such as requesting closure of the locks to block carp movement into Lake Michigan and installing additional fish water barriers; and

6. There is an immediate and pressing need to halt the potential progression of the invasive carp and the danger that this fish poses to the unique ecology of the Great Lakes and the way of life enjoyed in Michigan and other Great Lakes states;

For these reasons, the city/village of ________________ requests and urges

The State Legislature, the Michigan Attorney General, and the Governor to continue to undertake efforts to prevent Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes;

Our Congressional delegation to lend bipartisan support to these efforts; and

The President support all steps necessary to provide a barrier at the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal or take any other necessary steps to ensure that this invasive species does not enter and permanently harm the Great Lakes.

Finally, the city/village of ________________ requests that copies of this Resolution be sent to President Barack Obama, Senator Carl Levin, Senator Debbie Stabenow, Congressman/Congresswoman ________________, Governor Jennifer Granholm, and Attorney General Mike Cox.