



THE LEAGUE  
OF WOMEN VOTERS

M I C H I G A N

EDUCATING AND ADVOCATING FOR RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

November 18, 2011

Governor Rick Snyder  
PO Box 30013  
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Governor Snyder,

The League of Women Voters of Michigan requests that you veto HB 4326. We support preserving and enhancing the environmental integrity and quality of the Great Lakes Ecosystem. Federal minimums will not accomplish this. Perhaps no single resource in this nation demonstrates the need for initiatives extending beyond federal minimums than the Great Lakes with twenty percent of the world's fresh water. Our citizens enjoy miles of coastline bordering four of the five Great Lakes and are very invested in securing its health. This resource is an economic and environmental engine, defining our quality of life.

The federal government has funded \$775 million of Great Lakes restoration work in the last two years, in addition to their regular programs. Michigan was the recipient of the largest share of this investment. Making the case for that level of support in the future will be more difficult to make if we are unwilling to protect this investment. Further, you may be unable to participate with our regional partners in protecting this shared asset.

The League of Women Voters believes that environmental protection and pollution control should be shared by all levels of government. The federal government should have the major role in setting standards, but state government should have the right to set more stringent standards. We call on you to continue the review process currently underway to coordinate functions of the various levels of government, but ask that you retain your right to regulate as needed.

Sincerely,

*Susan Smith*

Susan Smith, President  
League of Women Voters of Michigan

