

**STATE OF MICHIGAN  
99TH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018**

Introduced by Senator Casperson

**ENROLLED SENATE  
JOINT RESOLUTION O**

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the state constitution of 1963, by amending sections 35 and 35a of article IX, to provide for the use of certain revenues generated from leases for the extraction of nonrenewable resources from state owned lands and to modify the allowable expenditures from the Michigan natural resources trust fund and the Michigan state parks endowment fund.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the state of Michigan, That the following amendment to the state constitution of 1963, to provide for the use of certain revenues generated from leases for the extraction of nonrenewable resources from state owned lands and to modify the allowable expenditures from the Michigan natural resources trust fund and the Michigan state parks endowment fund, is proposed, agreed to, and submitted to the people of the state:

**ARTICLE IX**

Sec. 35. (1) There is hereby established the Michigan natural resources trust fund. The trust fund shall consist of all bonuses, rentals, delayed rentals, and royalties collected or reserved by the state under provisions of leases for the extraction of nonrenewable resources from state owned lands, except such revenues accruing under leases of state owned lands acquired with money from state or federal game and fish protection funds or revenues accruing from lands purchased with such revenues. However, until the Michigan state parks endowment fund reaches an accumulated principal of \$800,000,000.00, the revenues from bonuses, rentals, delayed rentals, and royalties described in this section that would otherwise be deposited into the trust fund shall be deposited into the Michigan state parks endowment fund. In addition to the revenues described in this subsection, the trust fund may receive appropriations, money, or other things of value. The assets of the trust fund shall be invested as provided by law.

(2) Until the Michigan state parks endowment fund reaches an accumulated principal of \$800,000,000.00, the amount accumulated in the trust fund in any state fiscal year shall not exceed \$500,000,000.00, exclusive of interest and earnings

and money authorized for expenditure pursuant to this section. This amount is the accumulated principal limit. The accumulated principal of the trust fund shall not be expended. However, the interest and earnings of the trust fund shall be expended for the following:

(a) Acquisition of land or rights in land for recreational uses or protection of the land because of its environmental importance or its scenic beauty.

(b) Development, renovation, and redevelopment of public recreation facilities.

(c) Administration of the trust fund, which may include payments in lieu of taxes on state owned land purchased through the trust fund.

(3) The trust fund may provide grants to local units of government or public authorities, which shall be used for the purposes of this section. The legislature shall provide that a portion of the cost of a project funded by these grants be provided by the local unit of government or public authority.

(4) After the Michigan state parks endowment fund reaches an accumulated principal of \$800,000,000.00, the accumulated principal limit for the trust fund as provided for in subsection (2) no longer applies and the revenues from bonuses, rentals, delayed rentals, and royalties described in subsection (1) shall be deposited into the trust fund. From these revenues each year the legislature may provide, in addition to the expenditure of interest and earnings authorized by this section, that a portion, not to exceed 50 percent, may be expended during subsequent state fiscal years for the purposes of this section.

(5) Not less than 25 percent of the money made available for expenditure from the trust fund from any state fiscal year shall be expended for acquisition of land and rights in land for recreational uses or protection of the land because of its environmental importance or its scenic beauty, and not less than 25 percent of the money made available for expenditure from the trust fund from any state fiscal year shall be expended for development, renovation, and redevelopment of public recreation facilities.

(6) The legislature shall provide by law for the establishment of a trust fund board within the department of natural resources. The trust fund board shall recommend the projects to be funded. The board shall submit its recommendations to the governor who shall submit the board's recommendations to the legislature in an appropriations bill.

(7) The legislature shall provide by law for the implementation of this section.

Sec. 35a. (1) There is hereby established the Michigan state parks endowment fund. The endowment fund shall consist of revenues as provided in section 35 of this article, and as provided by law. The endowment fund may also receive private contributions of money or other things of value. The assets of the endowment fund shall be invested as provided by law.

(2) The accumulated principal of the endowment fund shall not exceed \$800,000,000.00, which amount shall be annually adjusted pursuant to the rate of inflation beginning when the endowment fund reaches \$800,000,000.00. This annually adjusted figure is the accumulated principal limit of the endowment fund.

(3) Money available for expenditure from the endowment fund as provided in this section shall be expended for all of the following:

(a) Capital improvements at Michigan State Parks.

(b) Operations and maintenance at Michigan State Parks.

(c) Acquisition of land or rights in land for Michigan State Parks.

(d) Administration of the endowment fund.

(4) Not less than 20 percent of the money made available for expenditure from the endowment fund from any state fiscal year shall be expended under subsection (3)(a) for capital improvements at Michigan State Parks.

(5) Money in the endowment fund shall be expended as follows:

(a) Until the endowment fund reaches an accumulated principal of \$800,000,000.00, each state fiscal year the legislature may appropriate not more than 50 percent of the money received under section 35 of this article plus interest and earnings and any private contributions or other revenue to the endowment fund.

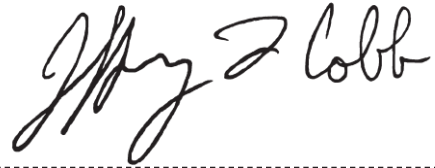
(b) Once the accumulated principal in the endowment fund reaches \$800,000,000.00, only the interest and earnings of the endowment fund in excess of the amount necessary to maintain the endowment fund's accumulated principal limit may be made available for expenditure.

(6) Unexpended appropriations of the endowment fund from any state fiscal year as authorized by this section may be carried forward or may be appropriated as determined by the legislature for purposes of this section.

(7) The legislature shall provide by law for implementation of this section.

Resolved further, That the foregoing amendment shall be submitted to the people of the state at the next general election in the manner provided by law.

I hereby certify that on the twenty-first day of December, two thousand eighteen, the foregoing joint resolution was agreed to by the Senate, by a two-thirds vote of the Senators elected and serving.



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Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that on the twenty-first day of December, two thousand eighteen, the foregoing joint resolution was agreed to by the House of Representatives, by a two-thirds vote of the Representatives elected and serving.



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Clerk of the House of Representatives

**Compiler's note:** Senate Joint Resolution O was submitted to and approved by the people at the election held on November 3, 2020 and became effective December 19, 2020.