

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 193

Rep. Cavitt offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to commemorate October 15, 2025, as a day of
2 remembrance for the Burt Lake Burnout in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, On October 15, 1900, in what has come to be known as
4 the Burt Lake Burnout, members of the Cheboiganing Band of Ottawa
5 and Chippewa Indians (Burt Lake Band) were forcibly removed from
6 their homes on Indian Road near Burt Lake in northern Michigan; and

7 Whereas, The eviction was carried out under orders of the
8 Cheboygan County Sheriff, acting on behalf of a land speculator who
9 sought to take possession of the Band's property, despite the Burt
10 Lake Band having lived on and maintained the land since recorded
11 history; and

12 Whereas, During this tragic event, the homes of the Burt Lake
13 Band families were burned to the ground, forcing men, women, and
14 children into the cold of October without shelter, marking one of

1 the most shameful episodes of forced displacement in Michigan's
2 history; and

3 Whereas, The Burt Lake Burnout is a solemn reminder of the
4 struggles, injustices, and resilience of Indigenous people in
5 Michigan, as well as a call to reflect on the importance of truth,
6 recognition, and healing; and

7 Whereas, Today, the Burt Lake Band continues to honor the
8 memory of their ancestors while working toward the preservation of
9 their culture, heritage, and pursuit of justice; and

10 Whereas, It is appropriate that the state of Michigan
11 recognize October 15th as a day to memorialize the Burt Lake
12 Burnout, to acknowledge the injustices committed, and to honor the
13 endurance of the Burt Lake Band; now, therefore, be it

14 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
15 this legislative body commemorate October 15, 2025, as a day of
16 remembrance for the Burt Lake Burnout in the state of Michigan. We
17 extend our deepest respect to the Burt Lake Band and reaffirm our
18 commitment to truth, justice, and reconciliation; and be it further

19 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
20 leadership of the Burt Lake Band as a symbol of this recognition.