



Introduced Version

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. _____**

Introduced by: Novak

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION honoring the 190th anniversary
2 of the incorporation of Michigan City, Indiana.

3 *Whereas, The area now known as Michigan City, Indiana,*
4 *traces its origins to the early 1830s, when pioneer and founder*
5 *Isaac C. Elston purchased 160 acres along the southern shore*
6 *of Lake Michigan and began planning a community rooted in*
7 *commerce, transportation, and access to the Great Lakes;*

8 *Whereas, Michigan City was formally incorporated in 1836,*
9 *with a population of more than 1,500, and has since grown into*
10 *a vibrant city spanning approximately 15 square miles along*
11 *the shoreline of Lake Michigan;*

12 *Whereas, The first mayor of Michigan City, Willys Peck, was*
13 *elected on April 12, 1836, establishing the foundation of local*
14 *governance and civic leadership that continues to guide the*

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1 *community today;*

2 *Whereas, Michigan City's population has grown from just*
3 *over 1,500 residents in 1836 to 32,075 in the 2020 United*
4 *States Census, reflecting nearly two centuries of growth,*
5 *resilience, and community investment;*

6 *Whereas, Michigan City is home to the Old Michigan City*
7 *Light, a decommissioned lighthouse built in 1858 and one of*
8 *the last remaining walk-in lighthouses in Indiana, which*
9 *preceded the construction of the Michigan City East Pierhead*
10 *Light in 1904;*

11 *Whereas, Both the Old Michigan City Light and the*
12 *Michigan City East Pierhead Light stand as enduring symbols*
13 *of the city's maritime heritage and are recognized on the*
14 *National Register of Historic Places;*

15 *Whereas, In 1837, Michigan City established a volunteer fire*
16 *department to protect its residents and businesses. It was later*
17 *reorganized into a professional department in 1905, with the*
18 *debut of motorized fire equipment in 1916 marking the city's*
19 *continued commitment to public safety and innovation;*

20 *Whereas, Michigan City has played a vital role in preserving*
21 *and promoting the natural resources of Northwest Indiana,*
22 *including contributions to protecting and stewarding the*
23 *Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, which was redesignated as*
24 *Indiana Dunes National Park in 2019, and the Indiana Dunes*
25 *State Park, the most visited state park in Indiana;*

26 *Whereas, Michigan City provides access to miles of Lake*
27 *Michigan shoreline, beaches, woodlands, rivers, and wetlands*
28 *that support a diverse ecosystem of native wildlife and attract*
29 *visitors from across the nation;*

30 *Whereas, Michigan City has long served as a regional hub*
31 *for transportation and commerce, including its historic and*
32 *ongoing role as a major stop on the South Shore Line, an*
33 *electric commuter rail system connecting residents and visitors*
34 *to Chicago, South Bend, and the greater Northwest Indiana*
35 *region;*



1 *Whereas, Michigan City's economy and identity have been*
2 *shaped by its industrial heritage, maritime history, tourism, and*
3 *ongoing investments in economic development, infrastructure,*
4 *and downtown revitalization;*

5 *Whereas, Michigan City hosts nationally recognized events,*
6 *such as the XINSURANCE Great Lakes Grand Prix, which*
7 *draw visitors from across the country and showcase the city's*
8 *waterfront, community pride, and economic vitality;*

9 *Whereas, Michigan City's strength has always been rooted*
10 *in its people, consisting of generations of residents, workers,*
11 *entrepreneurs, public servants, educators, and community*
12 *leaders whose dedication and perseverance have built a city*
13 *defined by opportunity, innovation, and a strong sense of place;*
14 *and*

15 *Whereas, As Michigan City marks the 190th anniversary of*
16 *its incorporation, the community honors its past while*
17 *continuing to shape a future focused on growth, inclusion, and*
18 *prosperity for generations to come: Therefore,*

19 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the*
20 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

21 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives
22 celebrates the 190th anniversary of Michigan City, Indiana's
23 incorporation, and recognizes the city's historic contributions to
24 the state of Indiana and the Great Lakes region.

25 SECTION 2. That the Indiana House of Representatives
26 commends the residents, past and present, whose vision,
27 service, and leadership have strengthened Michigan City and
28 positioned it for continued progress.

29 SECTION 3. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
30 Representatives shall transmit copies of this resolution to State
31 Representative Randy Novak for distribution.

