



1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The importance of the Great Lakes to both the
3 United States and Canada cannot be understated; and

4 WHEREAS, The Great Lakes is the largest body of fresh water
5 in the world, constituting one-fifth of the Earth's supply of
6 fresh water; and

7 WHEREAS, It is vital for the economic and ecological
8 survival of the Great Lakes region that the environmental
9 integrity of the Great Lakes basin be protected; and

10 WHEREAS, The Great Lakes drainage basin, which covers a
11 288,000 square-mile area, provides an enormous economic
12 benefit, such as a \$35 billion-a-year boating industry and an
13 \$18 billion-a-year wildlife watching and sportsman industry,
14 to the region; and

15 WHEREAS, The Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy
16 is the result of an enormous bipartisan effort that includes
17 several states and Canadian provinces, as well as a coalition
18 of environmental advocates, economic interests, and other
19 concerned parties; therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
21 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
22 we urge the United States Congress to ratify the Great Lakes
23 Regional Collaboration Strategy, and we ask that President Bush
24 allocate \$300 million dollars in federal matching funds to be
25 used for sewer and water improvements, wetlands and river
26 restoration, toxics cleanups, and other vital projects; and be
27 it further

28 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to
29 President Bush and each member of the Illinois congressional

1 delegation.