

Substitute for Senate Resolution No. 25

A resolution commemorating *Hidden Michigan* as an official children's book of the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Children flourish under the support and guidance of nurturing and caring parents as they develop towards adulthood. As a child's first and most important teacher, parents have a special role in helping children learn. Parents can most effectively influence their child's progress by consistently and frequently reading together. This daily reading can immensely improve a student's achievement across all academic areas; and

Whereas, When families are involved in their children's education, children achieve higher grades and test scores, have better attendance at school, complete more homework, and demonstrate more positive attitudes and behavior; and

Whereas, Success in school starts with a student's ability to read well. This important life skill has taken on new meaning in the 21st century. Economists cite that a highly educated workforce with a thirst for learning drives economic growth in our knowledge-based economy. So learning to read – and reading well – is more important than ever; and

Whereas, As our nation continues to move towards an information-based economy, literacy becomes increasingly important. According to the U.S. Department of Education, approximately 40 percent of students across the nation cannot read at a basic level. Learning to read and the promotion of reading needs to start at an early age and continue throughout life; and

Whereas, Mackinac Island Press has published a book entitled, *Hidden Michigan*. This book is a creative hide-and-seek book celebrating everything special to Michigan – its history, beauty, and unique place in our great country; and

Whereas, Authors Anne Margaret Lewis and Janis Campbell worked with illustrator Wendy Popko to bring this exciting and colorful book to life. Every corner of Michigan is celebrated in *Hidden Michigan* – from Isle Royale and the Mighty Mac, to Motown and the Motor City, and from the Thumb to our historic Capitol Building across to Cereal City, Tulip Time and all points in between. *Hidden Michigan* truly highlights so much of our great state that we can be proud, while allowing children to read and learn about so many of Michigan's hidden jewels; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we commemorate *Hidden Michigan* as an official children's book of the state of Michigan; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Mackinac Island Press as a symbol of our esteem.