



23-3: Resolution in Support of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative

- WHEREAS,** the nonpartisan, binational Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Legislative Caucus (GLLC) supports the continued existence and growth of the U.S. Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) as a means to coordinate and secure funds for restoration and protection work through the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence basin; and
- WHEREAS,** the GLLC applauds the bipartisan work of the Great Lakes Region's U.S. Congressional Delegation in its efforts to secure a continuation of funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI); and
- WHEREAS,** the GLLC recognizes that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is currently soliciting comment on the formation of the GLRI Action Plan IV, which will guide the activities of the GLRI from 2025-2029; and
- WHEREAS,** state, tribal, and local government efforts to protect Great Lakes resources and maintain important wildlife habitats are tied to the availability of federal GLRI funds and priorities identified in GLRI action plans; and
- WHEREAS,** the GLLC is organized around the guiding principle of assuring that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River continue to provide a plentiful source of clean, affordable water to the region's residents, businesses, and industries; now, therefore be it
- RESOLVED,** that the GLLC urges the U.S. EPA to include climate resiliency and responsiveness to the impact of climate change as a core focus area, as well as a pillar of long-term goals; and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that the GLRI further emphasize Chemical of Mutual Concern in the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, especially PFAS compounds, and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that GLRI priorities and investments are pursued with the binational region in mind with regular communication to all levels of government, and be it further
- RESOLVED,** that this resolution be submitted to the U.S. EPA Great Lakes National Program Office.

Adopted at the GLLC 2023 Annual Meeting on September 9, 2023