MRC RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN EXPANSION OF MICHIGAN’S BOTTLE BILL

WHEREAS, for over twenty-seven years Michigan’s bottle bill has been extremely effective at achieving its economic, social and environmental goals, and;

WHEREAS, Michigan’s bottle bill has been a model for the United States, and;

WHEREAS, Michigan’s carbonated container law has produced a recycling rate of up to 95% for affected glass, aluminum and plastic containers, and;

WHEREAS, individual water, juice, tea, and sports drink bottles were not widely sold when Michigan’s Beverage Container Law was developed, and;

WHEREAS, citizens from across the state are concerned about litter from non-carbonated single-serve beverages on our highways, in our neighborhoods and in our natural areas, and;

WHEREAS, Michigan’s expanded Bottle Bill would divert waste from disposal thus reducing solid waste management costs and reducing our need for landfill construction, and;

WHEREAS, the state of Michigan has an extremely low recycling rate for all containers not covered under the Bottle Bill and an expanded Bottle Bill would greatly increase recycling volumes, and;

WHEREAS, the Beverage Container Law already supports thousands of jobs and an expanded law would result in further economic development, and;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Michigan Recycling Coalition fully supports and urges the Michigan Legislature to pass legislation to expand the Michigan Bottle Bill to increase the recycling rate of non-carbonated, single-serve beverages and reduce unwanted litter from these bottles and cans.

The Michigan Recycling Coalition (MRC) is a non-profit environmental organization whose mission is:

To foster effective resource use in Michigan by developing, supporting and educating a coalition of business, government, non-profit and individual members working toward the common goals of waste reduction, recycling, reuse, composting and recycled-content purchasing.

Approved by the MRC Board of Directors 3/14/05