

# SENATE BILL No. 1281

June 2, 2004, Introduced by Senators STAMAS, ALLEN, HARDIMAN, BIRKHOLZ, KUIPERS, McMANUS, BARCIA, GEORGE, BROWN and GOSCHKA and referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs.

A bill to amend 1994 PA 451, entitled  
"Natural resources and environmental protection act,"  
(MCL 324.101 to 324.90106) by adding section 74124.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1       Sec. 74124. (1) The department shall create a "gem of the  
2 parks" award to recognize key state parks for their contribution  
3 to the state parks system and a "volunteer of the year" award to  
4 recognize outstanding individuals who donate time or monetary  
5 contributions to the state park system. The department shall  
6 develop a program to facilitate the determination and  
7 presentation of these awards. The awards shall be made on a  
8 yearly basis.

9       (2) The department shall develop a set of standards to use in  
10 determining the recipients of the awards under subsection (1)  
11 with consideration given to the following:

1           (a) The contribution of the state park or volunteer to the  
2 preservation of the state's natural resources.

3           (b) The amount of any monetary donation.

4           (c) The length of time donated.

5           (d) The length of a long-term commitment to the preservation  
6 of the environment.

7           (3) The department annually shall submit the names of the  
8 award recipients under subsection (1) to the standing committees  
9 in the senate and house of representatives responsible for  
10 natural resources matters.