



STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LANSING

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

JOHN D. CHERRY, JR.
LT. GOVERNOR

March 2, 2005

Dear Friends of Belle Isle Aquarium:

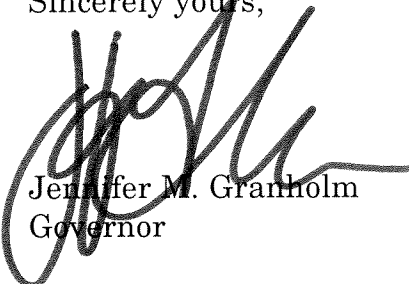
I am pleased to recognize the value of the Belle Isle Aquarium in Detroit and its positive impact on the citizens of our state and I support your efforts to raise funds to keep this jewel open in the City of Detroit.

With its wealth of educational exhibits, the historical 101-year old Belle Isle Aquarium provides a unique and thrilling experience for Michigan's citizens. Visitors can view native species such as trout, bass, pike, perch and walleye, as well as tropical and endangered marine life, without traveling outside of our state. The aquarium's nationally recognized technique in breeding stingrays has been rewarded in the past with the prestigious Zoo and Aquarium Bean Award.

It is obvious by your efforts that the aquarium has left an indelible mark on all those who have crossed through its doors. The Belle Isle Aquarium is a destination that continues to be celebrated by the citizens of our State and our Nation.

I am proud to have such a wonderful attraction in our state for our families to discover and enjoy. I urge those who have enjoyed this resource to join in the effort to preserve this historic and irreplaceable landmark. By coming together in support of the fine work of the Friends of Belle Isle Aquarium, individuals, families, and students will have the opportunity to visit and experience all the valuable offerings of Belle Isle Aquarium well into the future.

Sincerely yours,



Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor