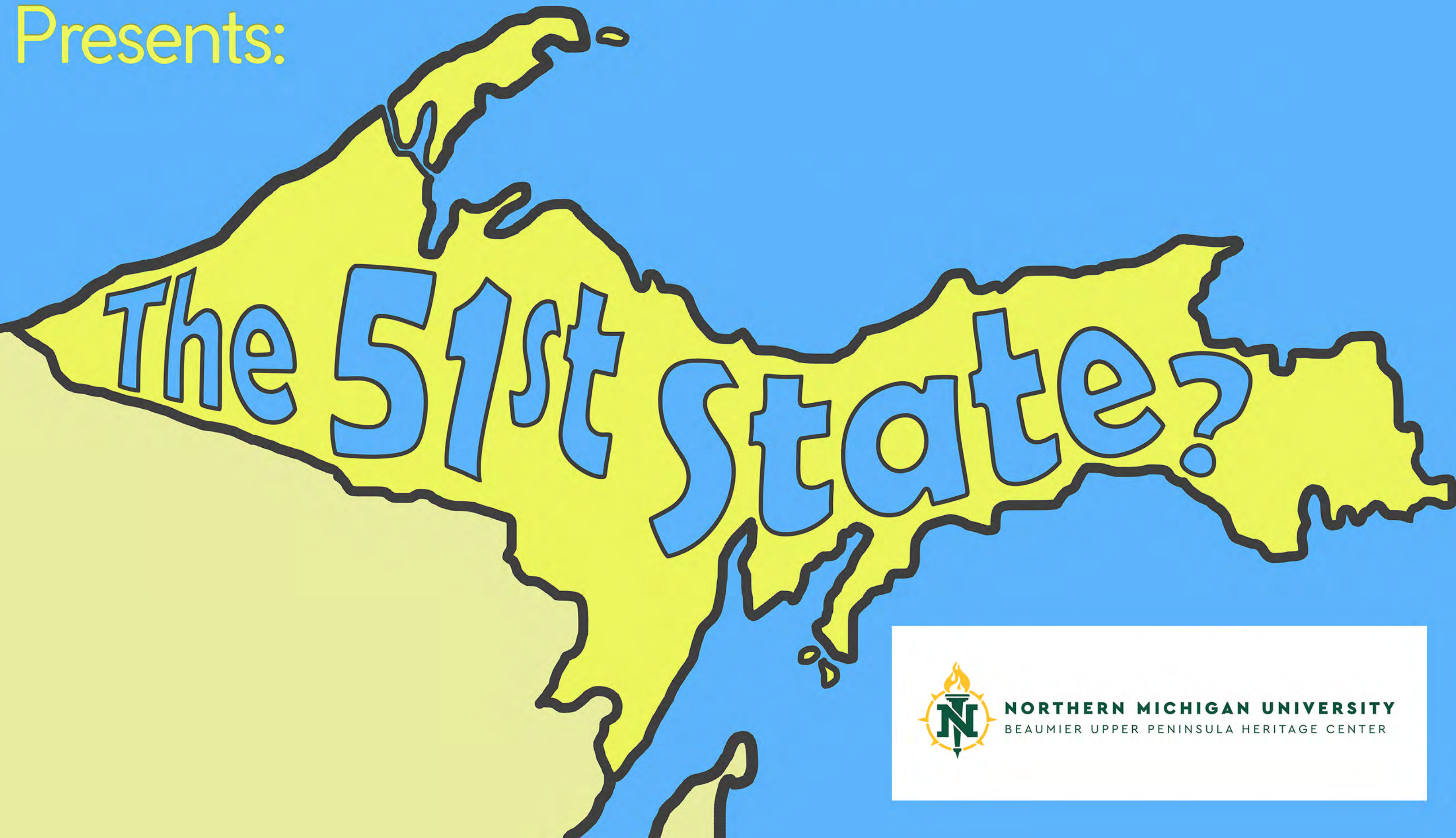


# Beaumier U.P. Heritage Center

Presents:



**NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY**  
BEAUMIER UPPER PENINSULA HERITAGE CENTER



# Changing Hands: Revolution and Treaties with the Anishinaabek

At the end of the American Revolution, the Lower and Upper Peninsula were largely populated by Native American tribes, predominately the Anishinaabek (Ojibwe, Ottawa and Pottawatomi). Throughout the two peninsulas was also a smattering of communities largely created by an earlier French occupation, as well as forts and trading posts previously held by the British crown. Neither the French nor the British had much interest in annexing the lands of the native people. Their goals were to exploit the fur trading resources of the region and they had created long-standing relationships with local Anishinaabek groups to continue the flow of trade. In fact, King George III's "Royal Proclamation of 1763" forbade land settlement beyond the Appalachian and Alleghany Mountains, stating that the western lands were to be considered "Indian Reserves."

However, the ink had barely dried on the Treaty of Paris of 1783, when American citizens began to settle in the Indigenous lands beyond the Eastern Mountains. Over the course of sixty years, eleven treaties were "negotiated" with the Anishinaabek over lands that would become the basis for the State of Michigan. Ultimately, the First Nations of the region were denied access to natural resources and forced to move from these lands. The U.S. Government used high-pressure negotiation tactics against the more deliberate and group decision-making processes of the Anishinaabek groups involved. Sometimes, the American negotiators made deals with Metis (individuals of both Anishinaabek and European descent) traders as intermediaries, which created financial burdens for indigenous groups.

With one treaty signed, it would not be long before another was being negotiated for adjacent lands. The Territory of Michigan and the U.S. government saw these land grabs as essential for the development of Michigan as prime farm lands and communities for the Eastern settlers. In the end, the promises made to the tribes for their concessions were largely deemed null and void after a few years, greatly affecting the livelihood of the original residents of the Great Lakes.

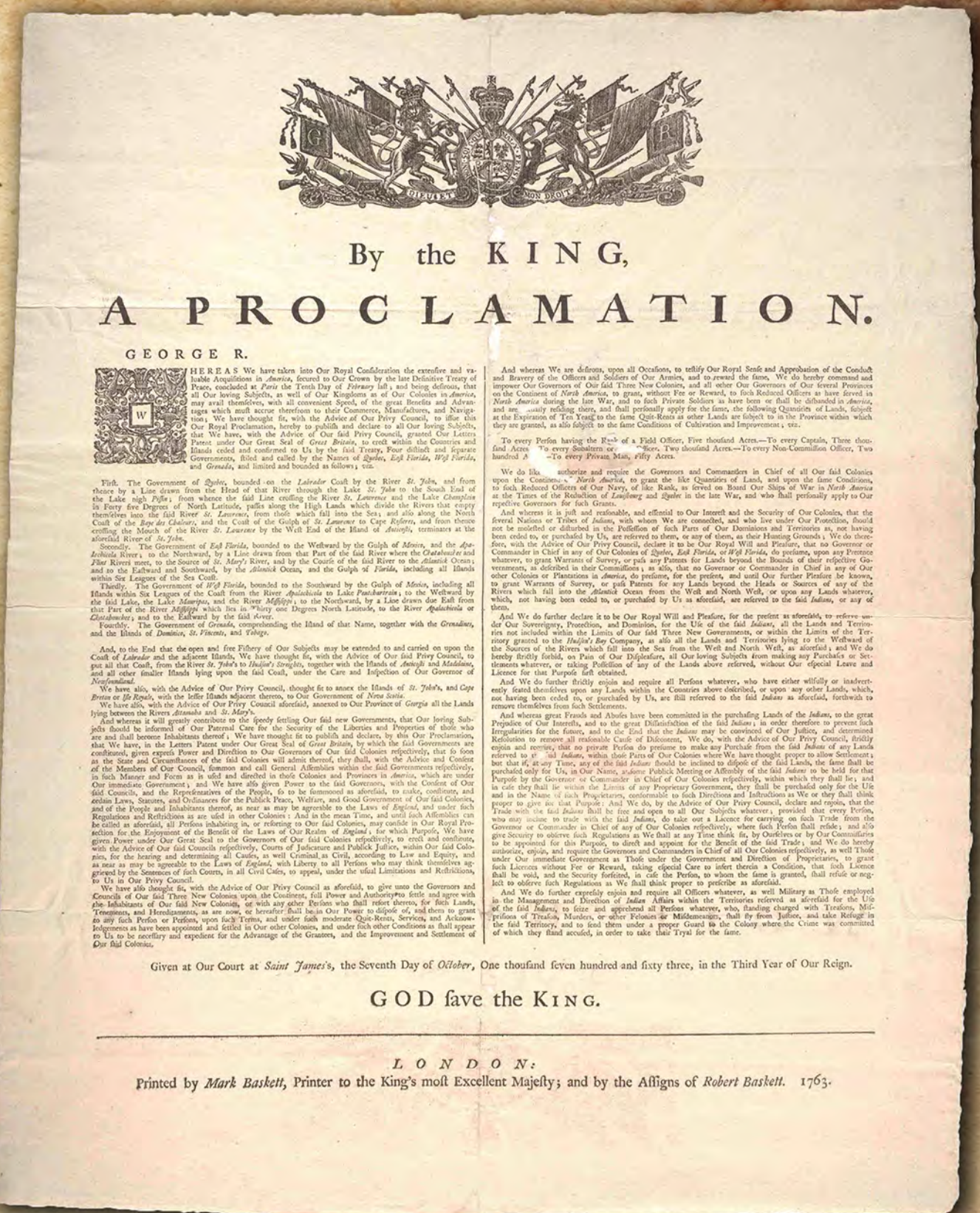


Image courtesy of the Smithsonian Museum of American Art



A  
NEW MAP  
of PART of the  
UNITED STATES  
OF  
NORTH AMERICA,  
EXHIBITING  
THE WESTERN TERRITORY, KENTUCKY,  
PENNSYLVANIA, MARYLAND, VIRGINIA &c.  
ALSO, THE  
Lakes Superior, Michigan, Huron, Ontario & Erie;  
WITH  
UPPER AND LOWER CANADA &c.  
FROM THE LATEST AUTHORITIES.  
By JOHN CARY, Engineer.  
1805.

SCALES.  
British Statute Miles 69 to a Degree.  
Common French Leagues 25.  
German Miles 15.





*Lehman & Durst Lith<sup>rs</sup> Philad<sup>a</sup>*

SHING - GAA - BA - W'OSIN OR THE FIGURE'D STONE

A Chippewa Chief .

*Taken at the Treaty of Fond du Lac (on Lake Superior) 1826 by J. O. Lewis*

Chief Shingaabawossin was born in Baawiting (Sault Ste. Marie) around 1763. He was a chief among the Ojibwe people and a member of the Crane clan. His name in Anishinaabemowin means, “flat-person stone” which is a sacred object to the Ojibwe people. He was a signatory at several treaties, including Sault St. Marie (1820), Prairie Du Chien (1825) and Fond Du Lac (1826). The medal around his neck is a Peace Medal that was given to chiefs by the United States government. It most closely resembles the medal minted in 1809 during the administration of President James Madison.

Information from the book, *Ojibway Chiefs: Portraits of Anishinaabe Leadership* by Mark Deidrich (1999)  
Image courtesy of the Smithsonian Museum of American Art



Articles of a Treaty made and concluded  
at the Sault de St. Marie in the Territory  
of Michigan between the United States of  
America by their Commissioner Lewis Cass  
and the Chippeway Tribe of Indians.

Article 1. The Chippeway tribe of Indians  
cede to the United States the following tract  
of land: Beginning at the Big Rock in the  
River St. Marys on the boundary line between  
the United States and the British Province  
of Upper Canada and running thence down  
the said river with the middle thereof to the  
little rapid, and from those points running back  
from the said River, so as to include sixteen  
square miles of land.

Article 2.<sup>nd</sup> The Chippeway tribe of Indians  
acknowledges to have received a quantity of  
goods in full satisfaction of the preceding  
cession.

Article 3. The United States will secure to the  
Indians a perpetual right of fishing at the  
falls of St. Marys, and also a place of encamp-  
ment upon the tract hereby ceded, convenient to  
the fishing ground, which place shall not  
interfere with the defences of any military work  
which may be erected, nor with any private  
rights.

Article 4.<sup>th</sup> This treaty, after the same shall be  
ratified by the President of the United  
States by and with the advice and consent  
of the Senate thereof, shall be obligatory  
on the contracting parties.

In witness whereof the said Lewis Cass  
Commissioner as aforesaid and the Chiefs  
and Warriors of the said Chippeway tribe  
of Indians have hereunto set Their Hands,  
at the place aforesaid this sixteenth day  
of June in the year of our Lord One thou-  
sand, Eight hundred twenty.

Witnesses Present

*[Signature]*

Secretary

Alex. Wolcott Junr

Indian Agent Chicago

D. D. Douglass

Capt. U.S. Engineers

*[Signature]* Lieut. Col. Art.

Int. Price

Lieut. Art.

Henry R. Schoolcraft

General Agent to the Exp.

James Duane Doty

Chas. C. Howbridge

Alex. B. Chase

Sat. Taylor

Sworn Interpreter

Lewis Cass

Shingauwaywakin

his X mark

Kagishash

his X mark

Sagishewayason his X mark

Wayishkay, his X mark

Nemo-waishkam his X mark

Wasawaton his X mark

Mimiquenacmanay his X mark

Kabinois, his X mark

Macadaywacwet his X mark

Shawd-bekaton, his X mark

Neta-way, his X mark

Kaibayway, his X mark

Narroquesogum, his X mark

Sawabit his X mark

Augustin Port his X mark



# *Treaties between the Anishinaabeg people and the United States Government for lands that would become the State of Michigan.*

- Fort Greenville, Ohio 1795 -
  - o Conceded land along the Shore of Lake Erie, the Detroit River and Lake St. Clair (part of a much larger land concession including parts of what became Ohio, Indiana and Illinois).

- Detroit 1807
  - o Conceded much of what would become Southeast Michigan (included portions what would become Northwest Ohio).

- Foot of the Rapids (Fort Meigs), 1817
  - o Concedes a small tract of land along the border with the State of Ohio (included portions what would become Northwest Ohio).

- Saginaw 1820
  - o Concedes much of the “Thumb” of Michigan, lands along the coast of Lake Huron up to the Thunder Bay River and diagonally to a point northwest of the current city of Kalamazoo.

- Sault Ste. Marie 1820
  - o Conceded land along the St. Mary’s River in the Upper Peninsula for the development of military posts along the border with Canada.

- Chicago 1821
  - o Concedes last west of the 1807 treaty border, south of the Grand River, north of the St. Joseph River to Lake Michigan (part of a much larger land concession from various tribes in Indiana and Illinois).

- Carey Mission 1828
  - o Concedes tract of land from the mouth of the St. Joseph River to the border of Indiana.

- Chicago 1833
  - o Concedes a small tract of land along the border of Indiana (part of a much larger land concession from various tribes in Illinois and Wisconsin).

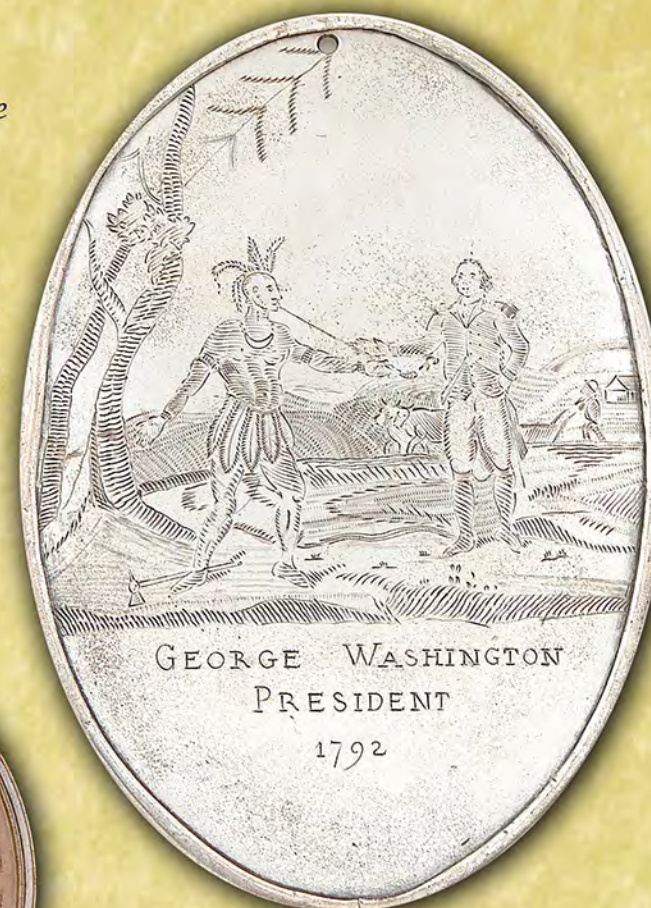
- Washington 1836
  - o Largest treaty concession transfers ownership of all the lands north of the Grand River along Lake Michigan to the border of the 1820 Saginaw Treaty, and then lands in the Upper Peninsula east of the Chocolay and Escanaba Rivers.

- Cedar Point 1836
  - o Concedes land south of a line from the mouth of the Escanaba River, north west to the Menominee River (part of a much larger land concession with the Menominee Indians in Wisconsin).

- Detroit 1837
  - o Concedes small tracts of land along rivers and waterways originally granted to tribal groups in earlier treaties.

- La Pointe 1842
  - o Concedes land west of the Chocolay and Escanaba River, north of the Cedar Point treaty, to the Menominee River, a line diagonally to the Montreal River, and east of the Montreal River to Lake Superior (part of a larger land concession that included the northern part of Wisconsin).

During the Presidency of George Washington, the U.S. began minting Peace Medals that would be presented to Native American leaders. For each successive president, Peace Medals were minted and given to Chiefs and signatories at treaty negotiations. The medals below are from the presidents who were in office during the period of treaty negotiations with the Anishinaabeg in Michigan.



This is the reverse side of the Thomas Jefferson Peace Medal. Most of the presidential medals had the same design with some slight alterations.



There was no medal minted for William Henry Harrison, the 9th President of the United States, because he died in 1841 after only one month in office.



# The Toledo "War"

Why is the U.P. part of Michigan? Many people are confused by this since there are two peninsulas and the U.P. is connected to Wisconsin. The easy answer is that it was a direct result of an almost non-violent "war" between the State of Ohio and Territory of Michigan. When the Northwest Territory was created in 1787, it was decided that only six states could be formed out of this large tract of land. One of the borders that was defined in the document was a West to East line from the very southern tip of Lake Michigan directly across to Lake Erie. This line was the originally intended southern border of Michigan.

As settlers streamed into the region and Ohio became the first state in the Territory in 1803, this border became a matter of dispute. Ohio used a 1755 map that showed that this line ended at the base of where the Detroit River enters Lake Erie. However, the map was inaccurate as was later proven by subsequent surveys. Regardless, Ohio claimed the 1755 line as their border, giving them not only the Port of Toledo on the Maumee River but thousands of acres of farm land.

Over the next two decades, Michigan and Ohio were in direct conflict over this issue, at times boiling over into violent but not deadly skirmishes. The first of these was the "Battle" of Phillips Corners (see panel on reverse side). In another instance, on July 14, 1835 a deputy sheriff was stabbed by a pro-Ohio supporter in Toledo. Mostly, there was sabre rattling and a wars of words between Ohio Governor, Robert Lucas, and the Governor of the Michigan Territory, Stevens T. Mason.

Eventually the dispute was settled in Washington, where both sides pleaded their case. President Andrew Jackson desperately needed Ohio votes in the 1836 election to support his chosen successor, Martin Van Buren. Though sentiment in Washington was largely on Michigan's side, he decided that Ohio would get the "Toledo Strip." As compensation for losing the strip, the Michigan Territory was given the Upper Peninsula (though 1/2 of the U.P. had yet to be ceded by the Anishinaabek). Most Michiganders were angry with this compromise but the U.S. Senate made it clear that if they wanted to become a state, they had to accept these borders.

For more information read:  
"The Toledo War" by Don Faber.



In 1834, Stevens T. Mason became the acting Governor of the Michigan Territory, though he was only 22 years old at the time. He was elected Governor of the State of Michigan in 1835, but it was not official until the State of Michigan was recognized by the U.S. Congress in 1837.

Image courtesy of the State of Michigan.

## PLAN OF TOLEDO

Image courtesy of the Library of Congress.



Though Michigan would lose a strip of 470 square miles to Ohio, more importantly it lost the Port of Toledo. This was the last major port along Lake Erie, which was a very important for shipping and gave access to the Maumee River and communities further inland. In this image from 1876, we can see how profitable such a port was to Ohio. However, in the long run, Michiganders felt that getting the Upper Peninsula as a consolation prize was a blessing in disguise.



PUBL. BY J. J. STONER MADISON WIS.

WABASH ELEVATORS

WATER WORKS TOWER

L. S. & M. S. ELEVATORS

D. & M. ELEVATOR

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

BETHEL CHURCH

L. S. & M. S. DEPOT

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH

HALL BLOCK

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BOODY HOUSE

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

TRINITY CHURCH

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

BAPTIST

ST. MARY'S

WESTMINSTER CHURCH

LUTHERAN CHURCH

TOLEDO

OHIO 1876.

Division of Maps  
FEB 28 1941  
Library of Congress

610,656  
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Chas. Shober & Co. Proprietors Chicago Lith. Co.

G4084  
T6 A35  
1876  
R8  
Aug 167



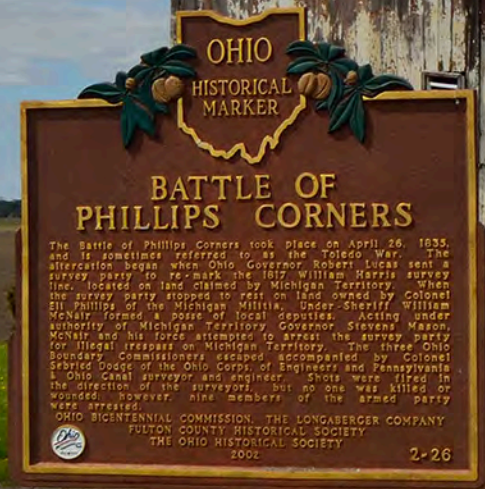




# The "Battle" of Phillips Corners



Governor Robert Lucas of Ohio used his political influence and acumen to acquire the "Toledo Strip." He served as governor from 1832 to 1836. In 1838, he became the Governor of the Iowa Territory.



Col. George Dodge of the Michigan Militia, ca. 1832.  
Drawing by George Catlin

On April 26, 1835, a group of deputies led by Lenawee County Under Sheriff, William McNair, headed south from Adrian, Michigan. Their task was to stop and arrest a survey party sent by Governor Robert Lucas of Ohio, to mark a border that was favorable to Ohio. As the survey party rested in the field of Colonel Eli Phillips of the Michigan Militia, McNair approached the party on his own. Soon his posse arrived on the scene and arms were raised by both sides. Four of the survey party surrendered while a larger group ran and hid in a shack. They would later come out and ran for a nearby forest with the posse firing their muskets in their direction. No one was harmed and a total nine members of the survey team were arrested. Though no lives were lost, Michigan was successful in stopping Ohio mark their own boundary and the incident would be the spark that started the "Toledo War."

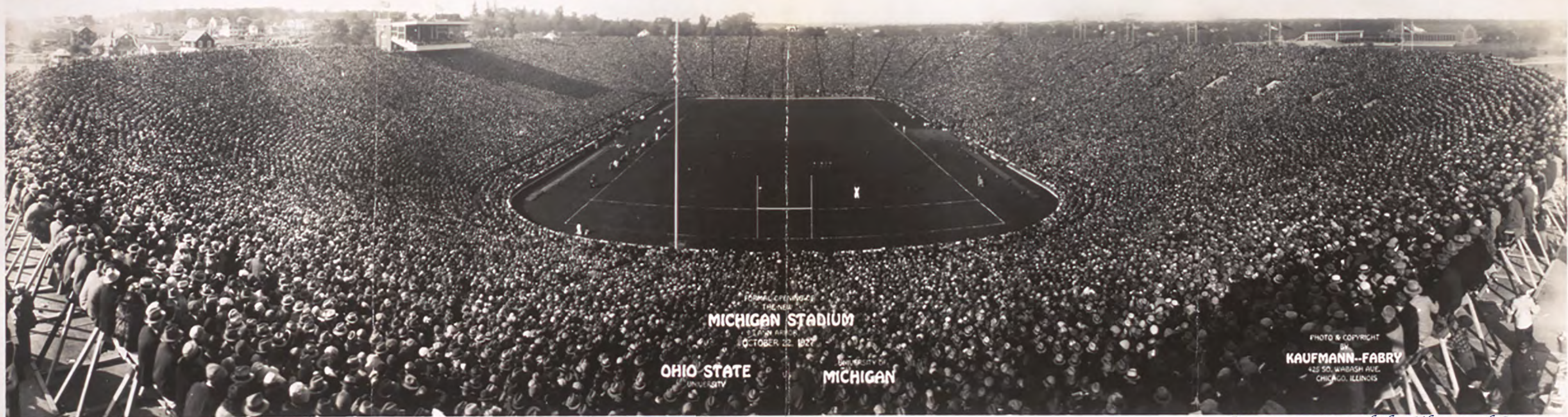


*The Toledo War was only the beginning of the sometimes-bitter rivalry between the states of Ohio and Michigan. This rivalry is rekindled each November when the University of Michigan and the Ohio State University football teams play "The Big Game." Regardless of either team's post-season prospects, to win this game is their main goal of season.*

*Where the name "Buckeye" is some-what self-explanatory for Ohio State, Michigan's nickname has long been an un-solved mystery. Some believe that it goes back to the early trapping days in Michigan, where wolverine pelts were in great supply. However, there is*

*some doubt as to whether Michigan ever had a large wolverine population and certainly hasn't for a long time. Another theory is that it originated during the Toledo War and that it was derogatory nickname by Ohioans for Michiganders, who they thought were dirty, uncivilized and quick to anger.*

*Regardless of its origin, Michiganders embraced the nickname as a description of their individuality and tenacity. As early as 1861, the students and faculty of the University of Michigan have named themselves for this elusive and vicious carnivore.*



*Image courtesy of the Library of Congress*

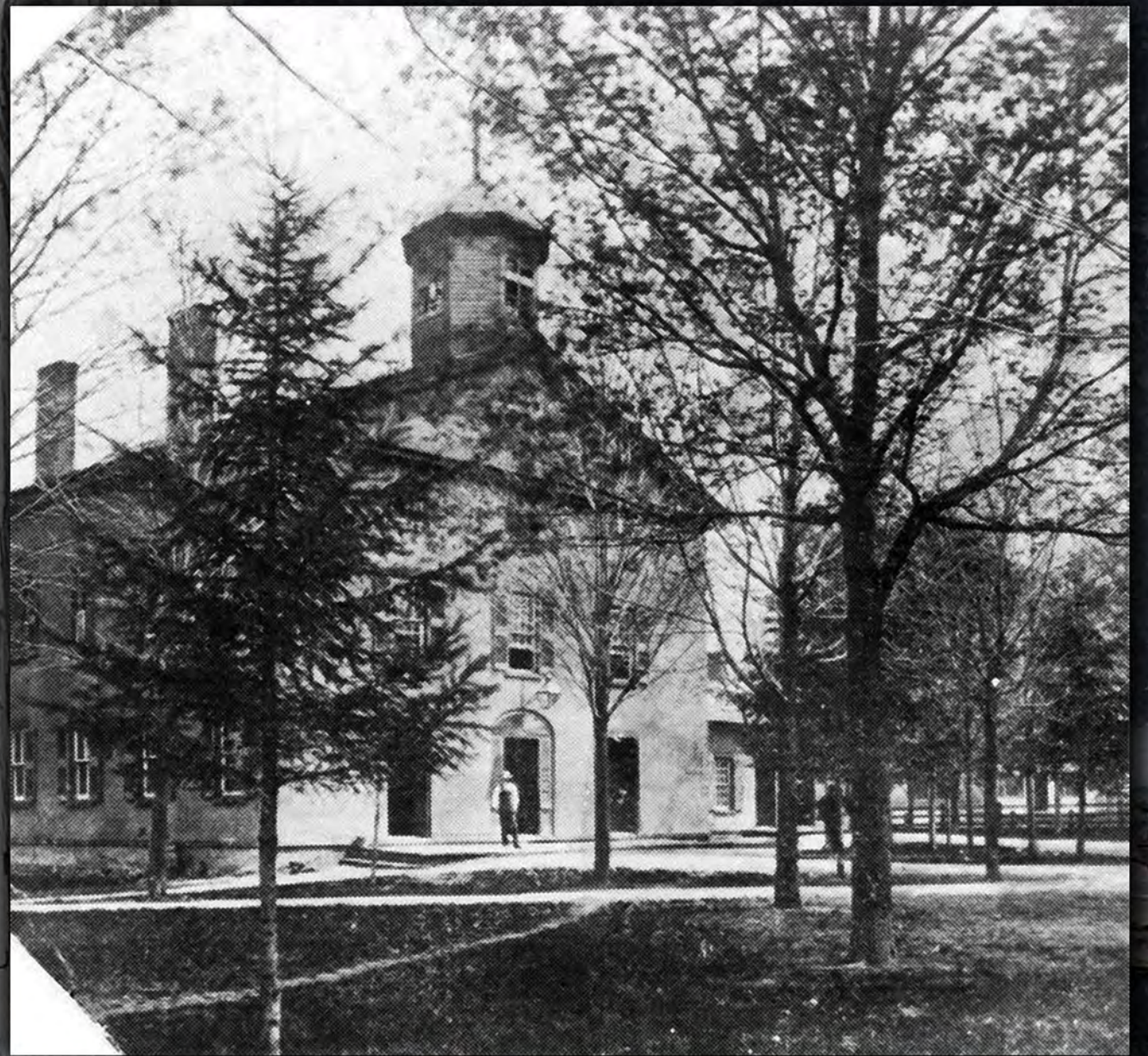


# The Frostbitten Convention

On September 26, 1836, 49 delegates from across the Michigan Territory met at the Washtenaw County Courthouse in Ann Arbor for the *First Convention of Assent*. This convention was to determine if Michigan would accept the terms of the U.S. Government regarding the border dispute and by doing so, allow Congress to approve their admittance as the 26th state in the union.

There was great disagreement between the Democrats (for) and Whigs (against) at the convention. Many in Michigan were resentful that their statehood was conditional based on this dispute. The Democrats were largely excited about inclusion of the Upper Peninsula, where the Whigs thought that it was too far away and had little value to the state. After four days of debate, the Nays had it by a margin of 28-21, putting statehood on hold.

Though Michigan had been defiant, the pressure to accept the terms was unrelenting. Michigan stood to gain \$400,000 from the federal government in surplus funds if it became a state by January 1837. Governor Stevens T. Mason and Democratic politicians took charge of the issue and created county conventions to nominate new delegates for a Second Convention of Assent.



Washtenaw County Courthouse, Ann Arbor, sometime before it was replaced in 1878



ELECTION SCENE.—FIRST STATE ELECTION.

This image depicts the first election for Governor of Michigan in 1835, which was won by Democrat Stevens T. Mason.

The Second Convention was held again at the Washtenaw County Court House on December 14, 1836. It was a cold day and someone quipped, “well, this sure is a frostbitten convention.” The cold was symbolic of the controversial nature of the Second Convention, which Whig supporters felt was illegitimate. Due to almost no presence of the Whig party at the Convention, the measure passed with 78 of the 88 delegates signing a resolution accepting Congresses’ terms. The resolution stated,

...it was better to be humiliated and to secure the civil and religious liberties inherent in statehood than to engage in an idle, unprofitable and hopeless contest for a boundary which is assuredly and forever lost to us.”

However, the loss of the “Toledo Strip” would mean the gain of the Upper Peninsula, which in less than a decade was found to be richer in natural resources than anyone could imagine.



JOURNAL  
OF THE  
PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
CONVENTION  
HELD AT  
ANN ARBOR,

*On the fourteenth day of December, A. D  
1836, for the purpose of giving the as-  
sent required by the act of Con-  
gress of June 15th, 1836,  
previous to the admis-  
sion of Michigan  
into the Un-  
ion.*

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PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CONVENTION.

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PRINTED BY E. P. GARDINER,

ANN ARBOR, MICH.

1836.

*This is a rare, original copy of the "Proceedings of the  
Second Convention to Assent," otherwise known as  
the "Frostbitten Convention."  
On loan from the Library of Michigan*



# The Constitutional Convention of 1850

A NEW MAP  
OF  
**MICHIGAN**  
— with its —  
CANALS, ROADS & DISTANCES:  
PUBLISHED BY  
THOMAS, COWPERTHWAIT & Co.  
No. 253 Market Street, Philadelphia.  
Scale of Miles.

Steam Boat Routes.

Detroit to Fort Gratiot.  
Hog P. E. end 5  
Pêche P. 21 71  
Hurons P. S. P. 201 28  
St. Clair River 10 38  
Chenal a Carte 3 41  
Cottrellville 2 43  
Belle River 3 46  
Old Fort St. Clair 84 54  
Palmer 1 55  
Lau Ceri 5 60  
Duncenville 2 62  
Black River 5 67  
Fort Gratiot 11 68

Thirteen years after the State of Michigan was formalized, a second Constitutional Convention was called to further strengthen the state government and manage its vast holdings of land. The Upper Peninsula was very much at the center of this convention for there were some in the State Legislature who wondered if it could manage such a distant land adequately and fairly. Some thought that it might become a burden on the state and the residents of the U.P.

However, there were others who recognized the great mineral resources the U.P. had that were just beginning to be exported out of the region. In July of 1850, a committee was formed to study the "Upper Peninsula" situation and determine the best course of action. This committee would make a final report to the Convention, which was added to the final version signed on August 15, 1850. The committee chairman was E.J. Roberts from Eagle River in Houghton County. Where the committee recognized the challenges of governing the region, Roberts in his report stated;

"... Whether the interests of that country would be best subverted by the organization of a separate territory there by Congress, or by attaching the largest portion or all of the Upper Peninsula to Wisconsin, it is not the province of this department to judge. It has only become my duty to state to the legislature the want of election and tax returns from that portion of the state; the first, because it was found physically impossible to get them here within the time required by law, and the latter, for some cause here unknown."



Original copy of the Constitution of 1850. Image courtesy of the Archives of Michigan.

The first state capitol building in Lansing where the Constitutional Convention was held. Image courtesy of the Archives of Michigan.



**ANOTHER NEW STATE.**—The people of the "Upper Peninsula," or Lake Superior country, are agitating a project for separating from the state of Michigan, and erecting a new state. The Journal, at Ste Marie, favors the plan, and says that the upper peninsula has no connection with the lower, and its artificial connections are more ridiculous than otherwise. Success to the project!

Newspapers across the country published various versions of this article in September 1850. Many were abolitionist newspapers, excited about the prospect of another free state. Slave state newspapers also carried the article but not with the last sentence. This version was from the Watertown Chronicle (Wisconsin).



# North Michigan

After Michigan became the 26th state in 1837, its acquisition of the Upper Peninsula was not first on the mind of its citizens. However, over the next decade this changed as the region's great mineral resources became apparent, along with the growth of mining operations and the shipping routes that resulted in the opening of the Soo Locks in 1855.

Even before the opening of the locks, there was a large enough population in the U.P. that sentiment for its own statehood began to be expressed in the media. On September 24, 1851, the "Michigan Expositor" of Adrian, published an article entitled, "North Michigan - A New State." It simultaneously expressed the beliefs of a group of visitors who had travelled to the Upper Peninsula and mirrored the sentiments of the residents of the region. It claimed that the region's isolation and challenges of its representatives to travel to the state capital, made it increasingly isolated. It also stated that the U.P. had not one thing in common with the Lower Peninsula. This article was picked up and republished by newspapers across the country.

ANOTHER STATE.—It appears from the following in the Michigan Expositor of the 26th ult. that the people of the "Upper Peninsula" are demanding a separate government:

"NORTH MICHIGAN—A NEW STATE.—Since our visit to the Upper Peninsula, we are convinced that there is not a little reason in the idea of the organization of the Lake Superior country into a State by itself. In the first place, there is no geographical connection between the two Peninsulas—separated not only by water, but in the winter by hundreds of miles of dreary wilderness, they have no communication with us except by traveling on snow shoes through the trackless forest, hundreds of miles, and her Representatives must come some three months before the opening of the session, or stay at home. Again they have not one single feeling in common with us "below;" they are mostly from other States, and care not half as much for a connection with us as they would to be connected with Pennsylvania—they feel that we care as little for them, and under these circumstances we are inclined to think if it can be done, they must eventually become a State by themselves. They have within themselves, everything requisite for an important State. Her mineral wealth is but just beginning the developement itself—their fisheries are in their infancy, and her agricultural advantages have been vastly underrated—all these, with her commercial advantages, will make, in time, an important State of North Michigan. What they now most want is a ship canal across the portage at St. Mary's.

This, Congress ought to attend to the next session, and we trust they will, and when a Whig administration shall have secured the canal, we trust our good friends "above" will remember the thing in the abstract, under the head of Internal Improvements, does and ever has met the decided and determined hostility of the Democratic party. If you wish a canal around the falls, cease to oppose your friends, the Whigs, who are in favor of such improvements. But any way, success to the future North Michigan."

From *The Buffalo Commercial*  
(Buffalo, New York) · 6 Sep 1851

Street scene showing R. Nelson's General Store, Front St., Marquette, Michigan, ca. 1865. Image courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Although nothing came from this initial expression of interest in Statehood, the 1850s became a decade with an explosion of sentiment towards the initiative, stoked by not only its residents but also journalists and politicians outside of the state. Part of the reason for this was the desire to create more "Free States" in the north to counter-balance the growth of "Slave States" in the south and western territories.



Soo Locks, ca. 1855  
Image courtesy of the  
Library of Congress.



# The State of Superior

LAKE SUPERIOR

A M A P

Showing the route of the proposed Rail Road from the  
COPPER AND IRON MINING DISTRICT OF LAKE SUPERIOR

to connect with Rail Roads built or being constructed in the State  
of Wisconsin as adopted by the Citizens of Ontonagon and Marquette  
Counties Mich. at Public Meetings held in November and December 1855

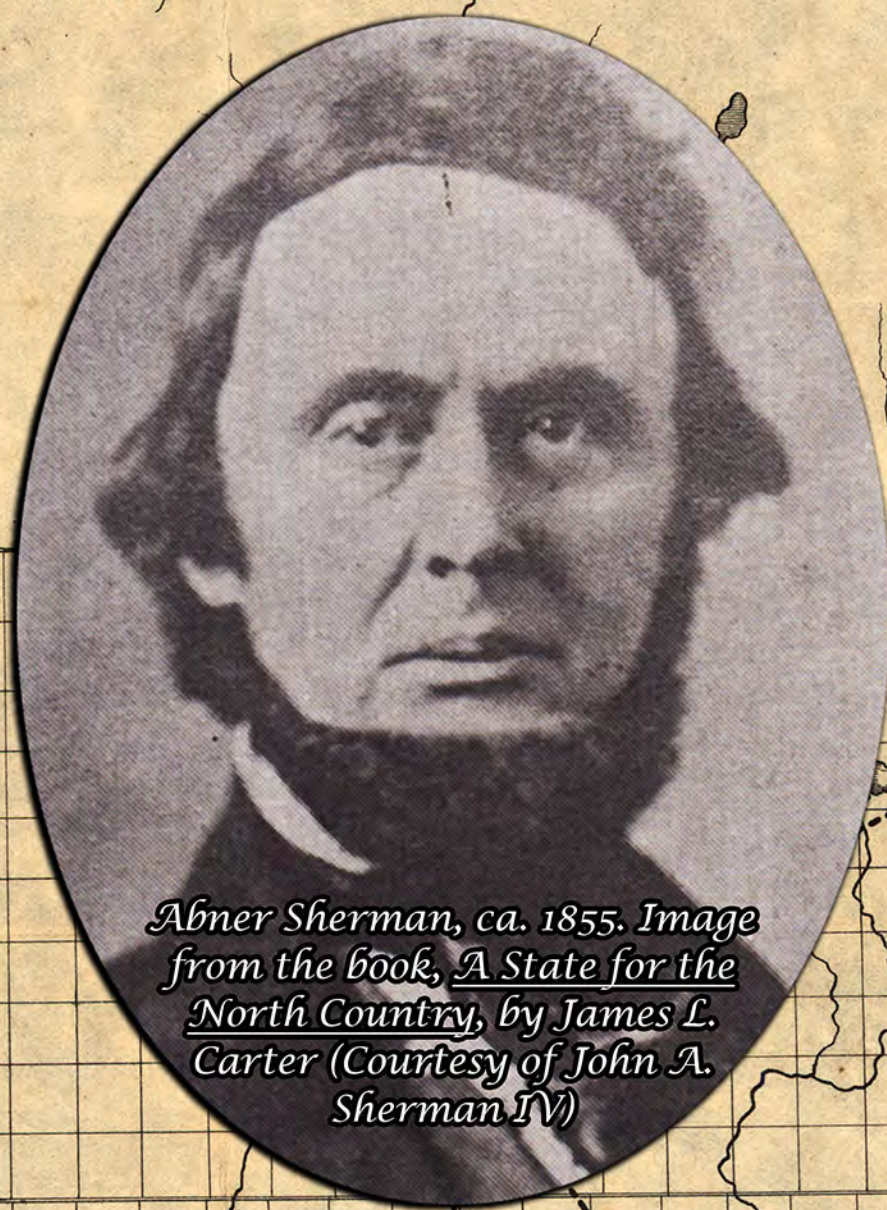
*[Subject to such changes of location of the Road as a  
general survey of the line shall prove to be desirable.]*

In 1855, Ontonagon was the largest town in the Upper Peninsula and became a hotbed for the debate over U.P. statehood. The community could almost not be further from the new state capital of Lansing and still be in the State of Michigan. A quickly prospering mining, logging and merchant community, Ontonagon had a newspaper called the "Upper Peninsula Advocate" which soon became a mouthpiece for statehood efforts. The publisher was Abner Sherman, who was also elected to be the State Representative to Lansing in 1853 (he served four separate terms in Lansing between 1853 and 1863).

Sherman announced to the State Legislature that in the future he would, "introduce a joint resolution instructing our Senators and requesting our Representatives in Congress to set off that part of the State of Michigan known as the Upper Peninsula, into a separate territory, to be known as the Territory of Superior."

On January 13, 1857, Abner Sherman submitted a petition to the Michigan Legislature supporting the formation of the U.P. as a new territory or state. It was signed by 77 other petitioners from the Copper Country, stating that it was almost a "unanimous desire of our people to have this project consummated." The petition made it to the floor of the legislature but no comment was made and no debate took place on the issue. The idea of the U.P. succeeding was very unpopular in lower Michigan, which had come to realize the value of the region.

Sherman continued to push for U.P. statehood over the next several years but his efforts were cut short on September 28, 1863. Sherman and his son were taking the steamboat "Sunbeam" from Ontonagon to Houghton when it capsized during a heavy storm on Lake Superior.



Abner Sherman, ca. 1855. Image from the book, *A State for the North Country*, by James L. Carter (Courtesy of John A. Sherman IV)

A LAKE SUPERIOR LEGISLATOR.—Considerable excitement and amusement was excited by the arrival of Hon. Abner Sherman of Ontonagon, at Lansing the capital of Michigan. He appeared in the House with his pack upon his back, dressed in true frontier stripe. He says the copper regions never promised a larger yield than they do this winter. He represents the winter to be a very fine one for business.—Business is not in so crippled a condition as in the Lower Peninsula. When he left Ontonagon the snow was about three feet deep. He traveled on snow shoes about 200 miles. On the eighth day he reached Warsaw on the Wisconsin river. Here he took the stage to Stevens' Point. The next day he arrived at Berlin, on the Horicon railroad, thence to Milwaukee and Chicago. His report of the state of affairs in the Hyperborean Kingdom, State of Superior, is encouraging.—[Grand Rapids (Mich.) Enquirer.]

## Separation.

On Tuesday, Mr. SHERMAN, of Ontonagon, presented to the House a memorial in the following words:

"We, your petitioners, citizens of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, being firmly convinced that great advantages would be derived by the people of this Peninsula by its separation from the Lower Peninsula of this State, and the cession of it to the government of the United States for the purpose of forming from the same a new Territory or State, and knowing that it is almost the unanimous desire of our people to have this project consummated, respectfully pray your honorable body to enact such laws as will secure to us this most desirable measure. In thus urging this project upon your consideration, we are actuated by no feelings of disrespect or disloyalty to our State, but, being fully satisfied that nothing would so much tend to develop our resources, and that many incalculable advantages would arise under a separate government, we do not hesitate to respectfully urge your favorable action upon the subject."

The signatures to this paper number seventy-six, and are those of the most substantial citizens of Ontonagon. We presume they have no expectation that their petition will be granted at this session of the Legislature; and we have no expectation that it will be granted for a long time to come. We will not say that it is an event not likely ever to occur. It may be that at some day the interests of both Peninsulas will be subserved by separation; but that cannot be until the Upper Peninsula shall be more closely allied, in a commercial point of view, with Wisconsin and Illinois than with the Lower Peninsula; or, until it shall itself have attained that peculiar commercial independence which makes political dependence unnatural and irksome.

The high interest of the Upper Peninsula, and not considerations of pride or selfishness, which might be supposed to animate the Lower Peninsula, ought to determine the question, whenever it shall be finally determined; and it must be confessed that the people of the former are the best judges of their own interests.

But that country is not sufficiently populated, and its resources are not sufficiently developed, to admit of an enlightened determination of the question. When the best routes shall be found for the contemplated railroads, connecting Ontonagon and Marquette with the rest of mankind, and when those roads shall be built, and when their influence shall be felt upon the future of that whole region, then the inhabitants thereof will better know what identity it is for their interest to assume.

Southview of Ontonagon, Michigan, ca. 1855.  
Image courtesy of the Clarke Historical Library, Central Michigan University





# THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

CERTIFICATE

No. 994

To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting:

**Whereas,** Charles Whittlesey and Abner Sherman, of Ontonagon County, Michigan,

has deposited in the GENERAL LAND OFFICE of the United States, a Certificate of the Register of the Land Office, at Sault Ste Marie, whereby it appears that full payment has been made by the said Charles Whittlesey and Abner Sherman according to the provisions of the Act of Congress of the 24th of April, 1820, entitled "An act making further provision for the sale of the Public Lands," for the Lot numbered four, of Section eleven, in Township sixty three, North of Range thirty nine West; in the District of Lands, subject to sale, at Sault Ste Marie, Michigan; containing, twenty seven acres, and fifty five hundredths of an acre

according to the Official Plat of the Survey of the said Lands, returned to the GENERAL LAND OFFICE by the SURVEYOR GENERAL, which said Tract has been purchased by the said Charles Whittlesey, and Abner Sherman. **NOW, KNOW YE,** That the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in consideration of the premises, and in conformity with the several Acts of Congress, in such case made and provided, HAVE GIVEN AND GRANTED, and by these presents Do GIVE AND GRANT, unto the said Charles Whittlesey, and Abner Sherman and to their heirs, the said Tract above described: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities and appurtenances of whatsoever nature thereunto belonging, unto the said Charles Whittlesey, and Abner Sherman and to their heirs and assigns forever.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I,** Millard Fillmore **PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,** have caused these letters to be made Patent, and the Seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.

**GIVEN** under my hand, at the CITY OF WASHINGTON, the twenty fifth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Fifty two and of the INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES the seventy-sixth

**BY THE PRESIDENT:**

Millard Fillmore  
By M. P. Fillmore Sec'y.

E. S. Horn RECORDER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

RECORDED, VOL. 2 PAGE 173

Abner Sherman was a land prospector and purchased tracts of land across the Keweenaw to cash in on the mining boom. This is an official land deed in his name from the U.S. Government, "signed" by President Millard Fillmore.  
On loan from the Ontonagon County Historical Society.







# *Territorial Conventions 1868 & 1875*

Houghton, ca. 1870  
Image courtesy of the  
Bentley Historical  
Library  
University of Michigan  
- Ann Arbor.

*During the 1860s and 70s, Peter White became one of the wealthiest and most powerful men in the Upper Peninsula. A banker, mine director and business owner, he served as a delegate at both Territorial Conventions in 1868 and 1875. He was elected the State Senator in 1875. Image courtesy of the Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan- Ann Arbor.*

*With the conclusion of the Civil War, there was a growing movement for U.P. Statehood across the peninsula. This was driven in part by the strong growth of its communities but also the region's realization of the importance of their natural resources to not only Michigan but the country as well. On December 28, 1868, a Territorial Convention began at Miller's Hall in Houghton with delegates from five of the U.P.'s counties. The following list shows leaders in these counties who were involved with the convention.*

Houghton - Jay A. Hubbell, Ransom Sheldon, T.W. Buzzo, W.B. Fue, M. Tomkins, E.C. Holland, J.N. Wright, William Webb and G.D. Emerson.  
Marquette - James E. Dalliba (Chairman of Convention), Peter White, Hiram A. Burt, M.H. Maynard, and T.T. Hurley,  
Keweenaw - A.P. Thomas, W.N. Updegraff, William A Wright and C.A. Updegraff.  
Delta - E.P. Royce  
Ontonagon - William Harris, W.W. Spalding and Alfred Meads.

*In March 1869, a resolution calling for the succession of the Upper Peninsula was introduced into the State Legislature but was never brought up for discussion or a vote.*

Seven years later, many of the same individuals involved in the Territorial Convention of 1868, met again on March 11, 1875 at Austin's Hall in Ishpeming. However, this time there were delegations from all of the U.P.'s counties, with the exception of Mackinac. Again, the convention was chaired by James E. Dalliba of Marquette. It was decided that one delegate from each county and one-at large member, would form a committee to prepare a resolution for the State Legislature and U.S. Congress.

The committee was composed of A.P Swinford (Marquette), Alfred Meads (Ontonagon), William B. Wright (Keweenaw), Ransom Sheldon (Houghton), J.N. Scott (Baraga), H.S. Pickands (Schoolcraft), E.S. Ingalls (Menominee) E.P. Lott (Delta) Thomas McKnight (Chippewa), H.K. Cole (Isle Royale) and Peter White of Marquette (at-large).

Again, the State Legislature largely ignored the resolution written by this committee and nothing came of the second Territorial Convention.

"Memorial" in 1/2/1869  
Mining Journal

[illegible]



# Clover-land

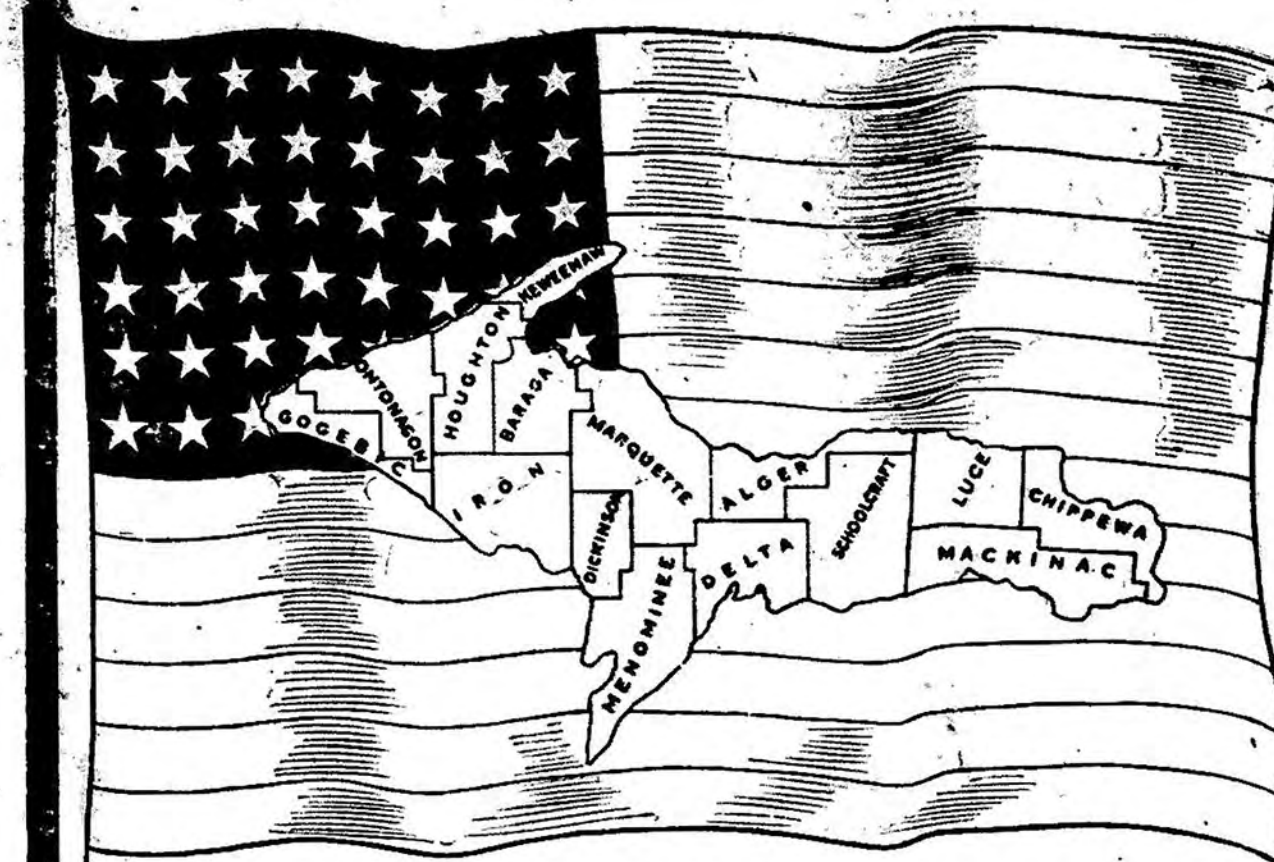
There have been few champions of the Upper Peninsula equal to Roger Andrews. As publisher of the "Menominee Herald-Leader," Andrews saw the U.P. as a land of endless opportunity for agriculture, mineral resources and commerce. Through his paper and other publications, he promoted the region as "Clover-land," encouraging settlement in its newly open lands created by the massive logging boom of the late 19th and early 20th century.

On January 5, 1916, he gave an address to the Calumet Businessman's Association where he started his talk with the statement, "the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, our Clover-land, should be a separate state of the United States of America." The text from his extensive, and persuasive address, was published the next day in newspapers throughout the country and, of course, on the front page of the "Menominee Herald-Leader." From this point forward, the Clover-land dream and that of U.P. Statehood were entwined.

Though the response from the lower and upper Michigan press was generally positive, most newspaper editors and politicians thought the concept was un-realistic and was in contrast to the economic inter-dependency the two peninsula's had created. Though Andrew's Clover-land initiatives would continue to grow throughout the next decade before the Great Depression, his call for U.P. Statehood was not taken up by others and never became an organized effort.

Roger Andrews, ca. 1915. Image courtesy of the Menominee County Historical Society.

## The Upper Peninsula of Michigan Should Be a Separate State



### There Is Room In Old Glory For Another Star.

The Upper Peninsula of Michigan, our "Clover-Land," should be a separate state of the United States of America.

The Upper Peninsula comprises nearly one-third of all the area of the great State of Michigan, the largest state, excepting Georgia, east of the Mississippi River.

The Upper Peninsula at no place touches the lower peninsula, but the former is bounded by its thousands miles of lake shore, touching three of the five Great Lakes and 180 miles of border line adjoining the State of Wisconsin.

The one-ninth of the population of Michigan residing in the Upper Peninsula pays nearly one-seventh of all the state taxes.

There is no reason under the broad canopy of heaven why this great empire of the Upper Peninsula, rich in every natural gift, endowed by nature beyond so many of these United States, a garden spot of agricultural opportunity, a center of industrial and commercial activity, the home of a third of a million people, industrious, thrifty and patriotic, should not now take its rightful place among the states of the Union, adding another star to the grand old flag and taking into itself all the rights, titles and privileges which are its heritage and its just due.

### The Upper Peninsula of Michigan Our "Clover-Land"

Larger than Delaware, Massachusetts and Connecticut combined.  
Thirteen times as large as Rhode Island.  
More population than Delaware, Idaho, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona or Nevada.  
More assessed valuation than Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Mississippi, Maine, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Carolina, Utah, Vermont or Wyoming.  
More miles of railroad than Arizona, Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Utah, Vermont or Wyoming.  
Employs more wage earners than Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Oregon, Arkansas, Montana, Vermont, Utah, Oklahoma, Delaware, Arizona, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nevada, New Mexico or Wyoming.  
Produces nearly one-third of all the iron ore and one-quarter of all the copper mined in the United States.  
Pays more in taxes than Arkansas, Colorado, Vermont, Wyoming, Utah, South Carolina, North Dakota, New Mexico, New Hampshire, Montana, Mississippi, Florida or Idaho.

### The Upper Peninsula of Michigan Our "Clover-Land"

Has more public schools than Rhode Island, Delaware, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah or Nevada.  
Spends more money for education than New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, Delaware, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona or Nevada.  
Has less illiteracy (U. S. Census Reports) than Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Missouri and all the southern states of the Union.  
Pays the U. S. Government a larger revenue tax than Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, New Hampshire, Oregon, South Carolina or Utah.  
Has larger per capita wealth than Arkansas, Colorado, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Vermont and all the southern states.  
Has more savings bank deposits than Delaware, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Kansas, Montana, Maryland, Colorado, Washington or Oregon.

## THERE IS ROOM IN OLD GLORY FOR ANOTHER STAR

"CLOVER-LAND," the new monthly illustrated magazine of the Upper Peninsula, will be issued January 15, 1916.  
It is non-sectarian, non-political and non-knockative.  
Its publisher and editor is not a candidate for any political office.  
It will contain only honest advertisements.  
Its columns will be as clean as a hound's tooth.  
It is the monthly good news of Clover-Land published in attractive form and mailed postpaid to any address for fifty cents a year.  
It is sold at your news-stand for five cents a copy.  
Your money will be instantly refunded if it does not prove the best nickel you ever spent.  
Its contributors are the men and women who are doing things for the Upper Peninsula. Take a five-cent chance on the January issue and see for yourself.  
Won't you do your share in starting a campaign of Upper Peninsula enthusiasm which will sweep through Clover-Land from Keweenaw Point and Menominee to the Soo?  
Won't you do it today, NOW?  
Cut out and send me the coupon below. Stop a moment and do this—you business men, bankers, miners, store-keepers, manu-

turers, doctors and lawyers, you women of Clover-Land, you young people who will be the greatest beneficiaries of this work.  
The regular price is 50 cents a year.  
Meet me half way with 25 cents before February 15, 1916.  
I'll assume the balance.  
Cut out and mail this to me NOW:  
  

ROGER M. ANDREWS, Menominee, Michigan.	
I live in Clover-Land.	Editor of Clover-Land.
I believe in it.	
I am for any sincere effort to make it greater and better known.	
I enclose twelve two-cent stamps herewith, for which send me the magazine, CLOVER-LAND, for every month of 1916, postpaid.	
You agree unconditionally to return this money at any time, on my request, if I should be dissatisfied with the magazine.	
I will give or mail every copy of the magazine to a friend when I have finished with it.	
I want to do my part to help.	
Name .....	Address .....
Enclosed find twelve 2-cent stamps.	
This offer not good after Feb. 15, 1916.	

"Clover-Land," the new illustrated magazine of "The State of Superior"  
Edited by Roger M. Andrews of Menominee.



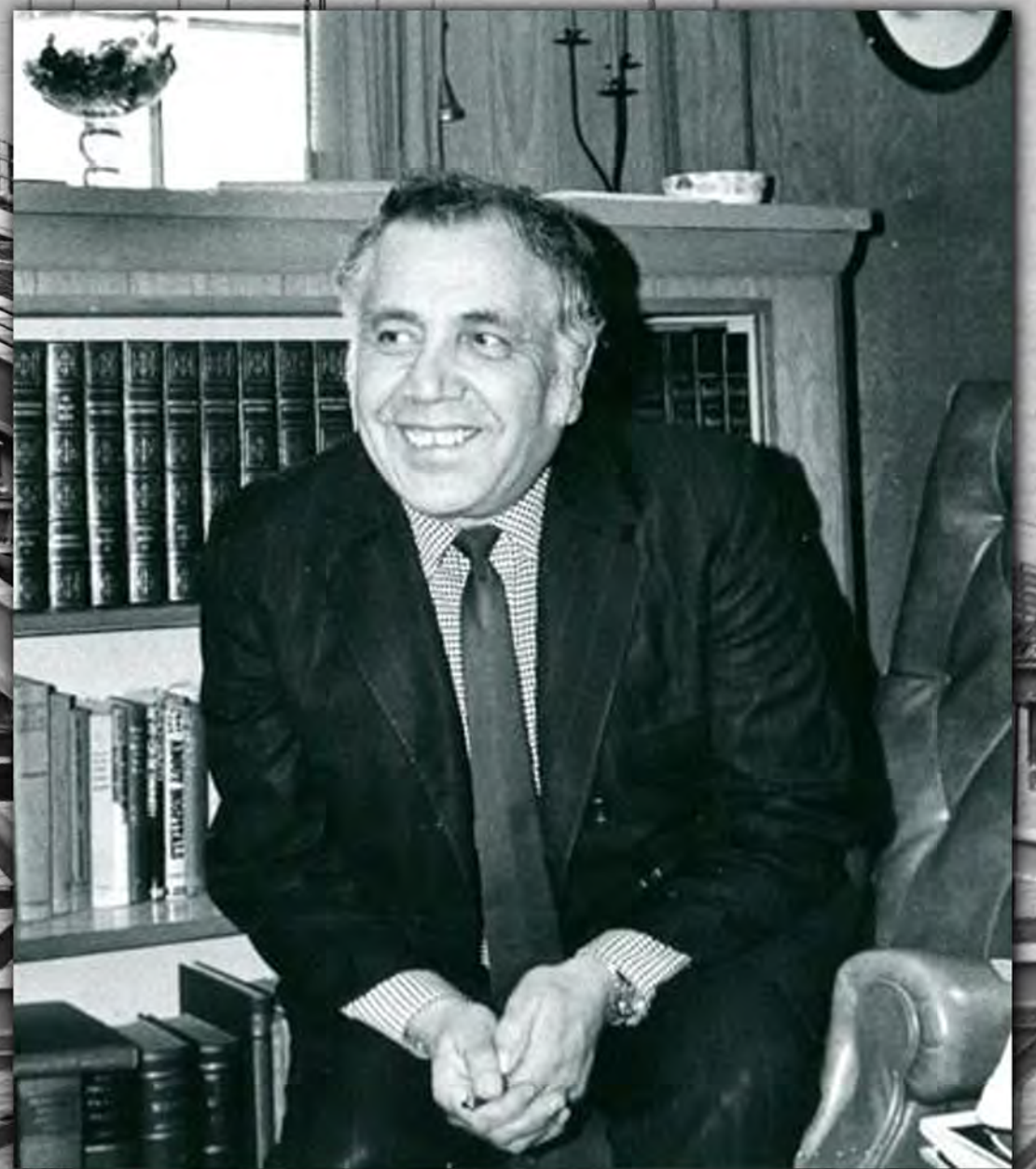
# The Great Divide

During the Great Depression and WWII, there were no efforts to rekindle the idea of U.P. statehood. The opening of the Mackinac Bridge in November 1957, signified that the physical (and symbolic) gap between the two peninsulas was finally overcome. Where some celebrated this new era of progress, many in the Upper Peninsula were concerned of how this would impact the unique culture of the U.P. Over the next twenty years, the U.P. Statehood movement would have its strongest public support since the 19th century.

One who carried the torch for succession from Michigan was Ted Albert. He was a native of Ironwood, had served as the Prosecuting Attorney for Gogebic County from 1948 to 1956. Albert was also a perennial candidate for public office in Gogebic County and the State of Michigan for 30 years. Though he never again held public office, he was a thorn in the side for politicians around the state, advocating for more support of the Upper Peninsula and ultimately for its succession from the State.

In 1959, frustrated with lack of support from state legislatures for struggling U.P. communities and workers, Albert filed a mock divorce suit in federal court, asking for the legal separation between the Lower and Upper Peninsula.

"Defendant has committed acts of non-support, cruel and inhuman treatment, and subjected the plaintiff to great shame and mental suffering, and on occasions too numerous to mention, accused plaintiff without cause of justification of failing to properly provide for the home of the parties hereto; defendant has claimed the plaintiff is too distant, too cold, too unwieldy, too hard to handle, and for the reason deprives plaintiff of any warm and close association. Plaintiff and defendant have had financial troubles, and, although plaintiff has warned and cautioned defendant not to spend money foolishly and not to increase unreasonably the cost maintaining the home of the parties, defendant has refused to listen and shows lack of attention or consideration."



Ted Albert, ca. 1975.  
Image courtesy of Bruce Cox.



# Gambling on Statehood

## Sponsor Says Secession Plan No Joke; Many Are Responding

DETOUR (AP) — Upper Peninsula residents apparently favor a suggestion that the area secede from Michigan and form a 51st state, according to a group of businessmen which proposed the move.

John Steel, spokesman for a businessmen's committee, reported Monday the committee had received much mail in response to a coupon inserted in the seven daily newspapers in the Upper Peninsula.

Steel added that 90 per cent of those replying agreed that the area should legalize gambling to pay its bills as a separate state once it divorces itself from Michigan.

The businessmen's committee had asked area residents for their reaction to the proposal.

Upper Peninsula legislators scoffed at the idea when it first was presented last week. Some termed it a publicity stunt and a joke.

"If the legislature thinks this is a joke, it'll be the most long-winded and serious joke they ever tripped over," said Steel.

Steel also disputed the claim of some lawmakers that the Upper Peninsula is in better economic shape than most people think. He said that 20 communities had an average population drop of 70 per cent in the 1950's.

## Iron County Joins Crusade Towards Statehood For UP

IRON RIVER — "Operation Bootstrap," the Upper Peninsula move toward statehood, introduced itself to Iron County this week at a meeting attended by 50 men and women at the Iron Inn.

Similar meetings had been held in all 14 other counties in recent weeks. Each county is forming a unit of people interested in establishment of the 51st state of Superior and three delegates are to be chosen from each county to attend a regional rally this summer.

John Steel of St. Ignace, the prophet and leader of the movement, explained his objective and described his missionary journeyings across the peninsula.

The Upper Peninsula regional assembly of delegates from 15 counties will be held in Iron River within 30 days, it was decided. The assembly will formally organize the statehood movement.

Steel said the movement is endeavoring to finance itself in the initial stages by selling its advertising instead of paying for it. This is being done by sale of windshield stickers labeled "UP 51st" for \$1, \$2 or \$5.

It was made clear by Atty. Ted Albert of Ironwood and Iron River that the issue of legalized gambling is not anywhere in the aims of the promoters.

Conditions governing the state would have to be decided by a vote of its people as a whole. Albert and Tom Angeli of Iron River agreed that gambling would be a bad basis on which to found a state.

"I am very encouraged by the growth of our movement in the past 10 weeks," declared Steel. "The next move is to hold a peninsula assembly of delegates from all 15 counties to form a formal organization, voluntary or non-profit corporation, to unify our efforts toward statehood."

In 1962, John Steel of Detour and Robert Wylie of Calumet created the Upper Peninsula Independence Association. Both were land developers and real estate agents who saw great potential for growth of the U.P. if it was not held back by control from Lansing. They put forward the idea of legalized gambling to provide economic stability necessary for independence. They believed that it would not only bring in money through casinos but would help bring tourists to the region in general.

Though the UPIA was active for most of that year, public support for this initiative was scant and opposition was very vocal, particularly in response to the idea of legalized gambling in the U.P. Most newspapers and politicians did not take it seriously and the effort disappeared.

However, like with most U.P. statehood initiatives, the effort did show the U.P.'s growing unhappiness with their relationship with Lansing and the need for greater financial investment in the region.

## 'Gamb'ing' Will Be Sermon Topic At Immanuel

"Gambling, Legalize or Otherwise" is the title of the sermon to be preached at Immanuel Lutheran Church of Escanaba on this coming Sunday morning, April 8.

The message by Pastor Gordon Thorpe has been prompted by the widespread interest and concern surrounding the subject of gambling, brought up by the movement for separate statehood for the U.P.

The sermon will be an attempt to help people understand the position of the protestant church in relation to gambling, and show the stand of scripture on the subject.

The sermon will be delivered at both of the regular services, at 9:45 and 11.



Background image, "St. Ignace, ca. 1960"

Image courtesy of the Bentley Historical Library,  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Political cartoon from the Detroit Free-Press,  
March 13, 1975.



## UP: A State of Mind or of the Union?

BY DAVID JOHNSTON  
Free Press Lansing Staff

ISHPEMING — Joanne DeVold, a clerk at Olson's News Store here, told a customer the other day that she thinks making the Upper Peninsula the 51st state is a good idea "because it's what the UP needs and it would keep our money here."

Like Mrs. DeVold, many of the UP's 300,000 independent-minded residents are pondering what statehood would mean and reflecting on the treatment they receive at the hands of a Michigan state government dominated by urban, Lower Peninsula interests.

In two UP communities, advisory elections will be held later this year on the issue of statehood. Those elections

"Statehood --- that's the most stupid thing I've heard of."

may serve as a measure of just how discontented folks here are with sharing a state government with their richer downstate neighbors.

UP statehood has been dredged up periodically since 1851 when the Sault Ste. Marie Superior Journal reported on a proposal by the editor of the downstate Michigan Expositor to make the UP the State of Superior.

Since then many politicians and community leaders have repeated the proposal, thus

appealing to the independent nature and pride of the UP residents who believe that their values, life-style and largely crime-free communities are superior to the Lower Peninsula.

State Rep. Dominic Jacobetti, Democrat from the UP town of Negaunee and powerful chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, is the main backer of the latest UP statehood talk.

Like many before him, Jacobetti suggests installing le-

galized gambling — which he once euphemistically called Nevada "recreational programs" — to generate the revenue to finance the State of Superior.

Mrs. DeVold thinks legalized gambling is "OK, so long as it doesn't go to any extremes."

EXTREMES, to Mrs. DeVold, include two of the basic attractions of gambling centers around the world: nude showgirls and prostitution.

Gambling alone is probably enough of a side-issue to halt any UP statehood movement.

Francis Brouillette, Dickinson county prosecutor and unsuccessful Democratic congressional candidate last

Please turn to Page 8A, Col. 1



Putting 'Superior' on the flag

LANSING (UPI) — Michigan Rep. Dominic Jacobetti, D-Negaunee, resplendent in his "U.P. — 51st State" shirt, jokingly sews a paper star on an American flag to represent the Upper Peninsula of Michigan as a new state. He staged his flag-altering stunt after a joint legislative committee was formed to study the feasibility of the U.P. becoming a separate state.

Representative Dominic J. Jacobetti had been one of the U.P.'s staunchest supporters in Lansing and during the 1970s was becoming increasingly enthusiastic about it becoming its own state. In 1975, he was able to get the State Legislature to approve an expenditure of \$5,000 for a feasibility study regarding U.P. Statehood.

"Jake" was the first member of the State Legislature since the 19th century who openly advocated for the succession of the U.P. He believed, like many in the region, that the interests of the U.P. were not being served by Lansing, especially legislation and environmental laws that he felt curtailed mining activities.

Following Jacobetti's lead, several communities in the U.P. and counties around the State put statehood initiatives on the upcoming election ballots. However, the proposals were all soundly defeated in November of 1975. But Jacobetti did not drop the issue after those initiatives were defeated. Eventually on March 18, 1978, he introduced House Bill 6115, "to separate the Upper Peninsula from the State of Michigan." The bill was sent to committee but was never brought up for a vote on the floor of the Michigan House.

Though he did not win the battle, Jacobetti had put the plight and needs of the Upper Peninsula front and center in Lansing and the region would benefit from his efforts in the coming decades.



Political Cartoons  
(Above) — "Detroit Free Press" — 25 Jan 1976  
(Below far left) "Detroit Free Press" — 8 Aug 1979  
(Below) "Lansing State Journal" — 23 Mar 1975  
Articles:  
(Below) "Detroit Free Press" — 26 June 1976  
(Below far right) "Detroit Free Press" — 16 Apr 1975  
(Right) "Ironwood Daily Globe" — 5 November 1975  
(Above Right) "Battle Creek Enquirer" — 26 Jul 1975

## U.P. Voters Turn Down 51st State Proposals

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS  
A proposal to make the Upper Peninsula and part of Wisconsin the nation's 51st state proved unpopular Tuesday as voters in Marquette and Iron Mountain rejected the suggestion by wide margins.  
The controversial Navy project Seafarer also was soundly defeated by Upper Peninsula voters in Iron Mountain. Residents there voted 1,772 to 612 against installing the communications grid.  
Marquette voters defeated the statehood question by more than a 2-1 margin, 1,542 to 770. In Iron Mountain, the separate state suggestion was voted down 1,601 to 743.  
In Grand Rapids, Abe Drusin, defeated by Upper Peninsula voters in Iron Mountain. Residents there voted 1,772 to 612 against installing the communications grid.  
Drusin beat another challenger Harold Dekker 1,329 to 14,169.  
Ironbound Mayor Parks, the city's first mayor, was defeated by Mary Conner Sept. 9.  
In the Detroit end, Highland Park, incumbent Blackwell was defeated by challenger Jesse Miller 3,169 to 3,169.  
Congressman John Conner defeated Blackwell of the corrupt administration in South Haven.

PAGE 18 Ironwood Daily Globe, Wed., November 5, 1975

## 51st State Idea May Be Dormant, but Not Dead

By The Associated Press  
Drives to make Michigan's Upper Peninsula the nation's 51st state are dormant now but far from dead.  
Yet that dream, persisting more than a century, has a long way to go to become a reality.  
Michigan's financial woes now a major reason for the lack of recent discussion about the statehood issue.  
"The Upper Peninsula boys are pretty deeply involved in the state's fiscal problems because of their committee posts," said Ken Dorman, an aide to Rep. Dominic Jacobetti, Jacobetti is chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.  
But Dorman predicted legislative hearings on statehood for the U.P. may occur as soon as September. He said \$5,000 appropriated for a study of statehood's feasibility could be used to hold the hearings.  
when it entered the Union.  
"While the idea is good for some political people, to bring it to fruition is a really tough job," he insisted. But he added, "I think there will be something to keep the 51st State movement alive."  
One of those pushing hardest for statehood is Ted Albert of Ironwood. He is president of the U.P. 51st State of Superior, Inc.  
Albert has been saying for months that statehood would require up to four years to accomplish.  
"I think we're well on our way," he said when asked about the timetable.  
But he said it may take months before he makes another move. Albert, a lawyer, said he plans to file a federal court suit. It may be based upon his claim no one in the Upper Peninsula voted on the proposed state constitution in 1850, just before Michigan became a



### THE QUESTION

It has been suggested that the Upper Peninsula be separated from Michigan and become the nation's 51st state. Would you like to see that happen?

### HOW YOU VOTED

NO, 62.9 percent. COMMENTS: "Michigan would lose its greatest natural resource." "I'm happy to have the beauty of the UP be part of our state." "I don't think we could call ourselves the Water Wonderland anymore." "We have a very unique state because of the UP and it should stay that way." "That's ridiculous. I suppose someone will suggest we make the Thumb area a 32nd state."

YES, 37.1 percent. COMMENTS: "If the UP did become our 51st state I'd be the first to move to it." "If that's what those people want up there, give it to them." "Michigan legislators discriminate against the UP when doling out state funds." "Those people have nothing in common with us in the balmy south." "They should do it next year during the Bicentennial."



**WWJ****AM  
FM  
TV***U.P. File*  
**OPINION****Title:** U-P Secession**By:** James F. Clark  
Editorial Director**Date:** Friday, April 18, 1975**Station:** WWJ-AM      WWJ-FM      WWJ-TV**Time:**      7:27AM      6:15AM      1:00PM  
             12:26PM      3:15PM      7:30PM  
             5:25PM      10:15PM

We're rapidly learning that the move to make the Upper Peninsula a separate state is no joke. In Lansing, the Senate has approved an appropriation of five-thousand dollars to make a feasibility study, and it's expected the House will do the same. Attorney General Frank Kelley has been formally requested to outline the legal procedure to make the U-P the nation's 51st state. There's some speculation that the U-P first must secede from Michigan before Congress can accept it as the State of Superior. The whole thing originated with a group of promoters who want to make the U-P the "Las Vegas of the North Country" with casino gambling and dog racing. The idea caught on with the U-P's delegation in the Legislature, and a 25-member citizens committee has been formed which will hold public hearings this summer. Whatever the motivation, we still think it's a good idea. Michigan should never have received the territory in the first place, and it's been a financial drag ever since. With the way things have been going, gambling is about the only thing that can survive up there. So, let's hear it for the new State of Superior.

*These original documents are from the  
Dominic J. Jacobetti collection at the  
Central Upper Peninsula and  
Northern Michigan University Archives.*



*These original documents are from the  
Dominic J. Jacobetti collection at the  
Central Upper Peninsula and  
Northern Michigan University Archives.*

HOUSE BILL No. 6115

## HOUSE BILL No. 6115

March 2, 1978, Introduced by Rep. Jacobetti and referred to the  
Committee on Appropriations.

A bill to separate the Upper Peninsula from the state of Michigan; to adjust  
certain boundary lines between the Upper and Lower Peninsulas; and to provide  
for a referendum.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

Sec. 1. As used in this act:

(a) "Upper Peninsula" means the following counties, together with all  
islands that are a part of those counties: Alger, Baraga, Chippewa, including  
Drummond island, Delta, Dickinson, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Luce,  
Mackinac, including Bois Blanc island, Mackinac island, St. Helens island,  
and Round island, Marquette, Menominee, Ontonagon, and Schoolcraft.

(b) "Lower Peninsula" means the remaining 68 counties of the state not  
included in the Upper Peninsula, together with all islands that are part of  
those counties.

Sec. 2. (1) The legislature authorizes the formation of a new state





# Ted Albert: The UP's nervous midwife, forever fretting nine months too soon

The would-be governor of the would-be state of Superior would like to secede from Michigan — as soon as the snickering stops

by TOM HENNESSY

**T**he man who bills himself as the "de facto governor of the de facto state of Superior" strikes a pose that is patently gubernatorial — chin in hand, shoulders pitched forward slightly.

"I have an abiding faith that we'll become the state of Superior," he says grandly.

Theodore Albert's dream of Upper Peninsula (UP) statehood is as unflappable as the massive towers of the Mackinac bridge, the concrete ribbon uniting the otherwise severed state of Michigan.

His dream is not new. Like a well-worn treadmill, the campaign for UP statehood has rumbled along for more than a century. But the dream state — variously called Huron, Hiawatha, Chippewa, Algonquin, Wisgan, Gitche Gumee and Superior — has bogged down in the face of public apathy and the awesome process of statehood, a Herculean maneuver requiring,

Tom Hennessy is a Free Press staff writer.

among other things, approval from Michigan's legislature and the U.S. Congress.

Debunkers of the movement doubt such approval could ever be sustained. Even if statehood were realized, they say, the UP could not support itself as a separate state.

In the hands of its current standard-bearer, however, the movement makes up in animation what critics say it lacks in credibility. The almost elfin-like Albert, a 58-year-old Ironwood attorney and businessman, approaches the concept of statehood with a smorgasbord of legal tactics and a sprig of flamboyance.

The crux of his message is twofold: That Lansing's bureaucrats have short-changed the UP, and that the UP has nothing in common with Michigan's Lower Peninsula.

"Topographically, geographically, socially, psychologically, we're different," says Albert. "Our trade, our commerce, our ideas, our communications, our interrelating are with places like Green Bay, Wausau, Duluth, St. Paul. When

you cross the Mackinac bridge into the Upper Peninsula, it's a whole new ballgame. From Ironwood to Chicago, it's 398 miles. From Ironwood to Lansing, it's 550 miles."

With a rapid-fire staccato delivery, Albert recites an inventory of abuses which he claims the state of Michigan has heaped upon the UP.

"We're like bastard children," he says. "The bad treatment we get is so evident. The state says it 'allocates' money back to us. But 'allocate' is a weasel word of the accounting world."

"It isn't a matter of one dollar sent to Lansing from the Upper Peninsula for \$1.40 sent back, as the Governor has been spewing and mewing around the state. The truth is, they've never drawn off the figures for the 15 counties of the Upper Peninsula."

Albert spares nothing in his criticism of Lansing's regard for the UP. He notes that the state seal, with its singular Latin "peninsulum," refers to only one peninsula, obviously the Lower.

In what Albert views as a staggering list of

inequalities, preferential Lower Peninsula treatment even extends, he claims, to roadside rest areas.

"If you cross the Straits of Mackinac, you no longer have any heated restrooms — and we could use them here. In the Lower Peninsula, they've provided heated places with piped-in music for the fairies and happy truckers. Just as soon as you get to the UP, those places are gone."

**S**everal years ago, Albert mustered such complaints into "The Plight of the UP," a poem which, by the author's own admission, is something less than Robert Frost.

Sample: "We can survive without a foreign dictate, and we'll have it all in a separate state..."

"Yes, we were married in 1836, and ever since then, we've suffered their tricks."

Ill-metered poetry aside, Albert, who has been advocating UP statehood for the past 20 years, has employed other devices for unfurling his slings at "those people" in Lansing.

In 1959, for example, he filed a divorce action which got him a spate of publicity, but little else.

It was typical Albert fare — the "we-they" confrontation. The plaintiff, the UP, sought a divorce from the Lower Peninsula. Albert's complaint accused Lower Michigan of failing to provide proper support, failing to discuss matters of mutual interest, causing the plaintiff shame and mental suffering, failing to provide maintenance, and referring to the plaintiff as "uneducated, unwanted and ugly."

As far as Albert is concerned, the 1836 marriage of the two peninsulas was of the shotgun variety; with the UP having no say in the union.

"We never had anything to do with the Michigan constitution," he says. "We were never given a chance to approve it or act on it."

Michigan statehood in 1836 was prefaced by a complex and rather sticky caper known as the "Toledo War." Following a series of somewhat bellicose, and frequently banal, events, a chunk of disputed earth called the "Toledo Strip" was ceded to Ohio.

As compensation, Michigan wound up with a big slice of the Upper Peninsula (the remainder of which was already part of the Michigan Territory).

At the time, says Albert, a movement had been afoot to make the UP the state of Huron.

Says Albert, "I've been contemplating a complaint against Ohio to have them give up the Toledo Strip and make us a territory and then Wisconsin could claim us. That would be fantastic. It certainly would turn the eyes of the country toward us."

Some eyes already have turned to the 51st state movement. It has garnered publicity in such diverse locales as Miami, Philadelphia, Chicago and Fort Worth.

In addition, there are Superior bumper stickers, Superior buttons, Superior patches and Superior t-shirts; none of which has brought any remuneration to Albert, who insists: "I'm not going to milk the people with promotions. I want this to be clean and wholesome."

However, he concedes: "There could be a pecuniary interest in this. When we really get going, that's exactly what we're going to do to help finance the movement."

Albert already has incorporated "the movement" into a legal entity called "The 51st State of Superior, Inc."

ALBERT ►



photo by ED HALL/illustration by NOLAN ROSS



...the 51st State of Superior, Inc. ...  
...the corporation to discuss and take a position  
...of this nature. He described how the Upper  
...the future State of Superior might ultimately  
...to such a degree, misguided and ill conceived  
...project. He related that the project and its promotion was  
...a typical example of the consideration that the U.P. receives  
...at the hands of outside interests. He stated that the major-  
...ity of the people in the U.P. knew little or nothing of the  
...project, its function or purpose and were unaware of the  
...dangers and the hazards to humans and other animal life,  
...wildlife and the general ecological and environmental con-  
...siderations. He stated that the proposed project would make  
...the entire U.P. a priority target for demolition by the  
...enemy and that whatever supposed economic betterment would  
...result would be, in any case, far outweighed by the danger  
...he likened to sitting on a bomb or in the bull's eye of a  
...target. He reminded the group moreover that Project Sanguine  
...is modular in its conception and can therefore be scaled up  
...or down depending on the PR needs of the moment. That Searfer  
...is a "scaled down" version of what was presented last year as  
...Project Sanguine should not blind us, Magnuson said, to the  
...fact that the Navy project is modular and therefore unlimited  
...in the amount of land it can ultimately impinge on. Property  
...owners, he said, should ask themselves what chances they would  
...have in a legal confrontation with the military over land or  
...buildings lying in Sanguine's path.

Magnuson stated that much of the impetus and direct promotion  
...in the Navy's latest attempt stems from the so-called non  
...profit corporation "Operation Action-U.P." This corporation  
...has its registered office at 800 First National Building,  
...Detroit, Michigan. This is the address of a law firm, widely  
...known to represent large corporations, special interests,  
...particularly monied interests. The name of the registered  
...agent is Lawrence M. Kelly, an attorney associated with the  
...firm of Dickinson, Wright, McKean and Cudlip. Operation  
...Action-U.P. was incorporated in February of 1965 for perpetual  
...existence and its annual report for the year 1974 showed that  
...the purpose of the corporation is to promote and encourage  
...and aid the economic growth of Michigan's Upper Peninsula  
...through activities of a charitable, educational and scientific  
...nature. With the exception of Raymond Smith, President of  
...Michigan Technological University (Houghton) who, Magnuson  
...said, seemed to be hoping for a windfall of research money

FROM THE DESK OF THEODORE G. ALBERT, PRESIDENT

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LET US DO IT...  
**DELIVER THE "U.P."**  
Let IT be BORN FREE  
As a "fresh" new State  
**Elect ALBERT**  
to CONGRESS

19

THE U.P. 51st STATE OF SUPERIOR, INC.  
OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP CARD

This is to certify that

has paid dues for the year indicated hereon  
in \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter, No. \_\_\_\_\_  
located at \_\_\_\_\_, Michigan.

Financial Secretary

Not Valid Unless Counterigned

Member's Signature



Original documents and pins related to the  
U.P. 51<sup>st</sup> State of Superior, Inc.  
On loan from Bruce Cox of Wakefield





**THE U.P. 51<sup>st</sup> STATE OF SUPERIOR, INC.**

ALBERT BUILDING, 105-7 SUFFOLK, IRONWOOD, MICHIGAN 49938  
AC. 906-932-1415

FROM THE DESK OF THEODORE G. ALBERT, PRESIDENT



THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1975 VOLUME TWO, NUMBER ONE

Richard Steiger  
906 Gold  
Bessemer, MI 49911

BESSEMER, MICHIGAN  
**THE PICK & AXE**

THIS IS YOUR FLAG -- BE PROUD OF IT...



THE ABOVE DESIGN HAS BEEN REGISTERED BY THE FIFTY-FIRST STATE OF MICHIGAN, INC. AS THE OFFICIAL  
SEAL OF THE STATE. IT IS THE POLICY OF THE STATE TO PROTECT THE DESIGN AND TO PREVENT ANY OTHER  
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WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE STATE. THE DESIGN IS THE PROPERTY OF THE STATE AND IS NOT TO BE  
REPRODUCED OR USED IN ANY MANNER WITHOUT THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE STATE.

PUBLIC HEARING ON U. S. 2 CROSSING IN BESSEMER TONIGHT!  
A. D. JOHNSTON HIGH SCHOOL STUDY HALL AT 7 P.M.

*Copies of the Bessemer Pick & Axe,  
Courtesy of the Bessemer Historical Society*





**SUPPORT  
YOUR**

**51<sup>ST</sup>  
STATE**



**JOIN THE CAUSE**

*Original posters from the 51st State of the Upper Peninsula, Inc.  
On loan from Bruce Cox of Wakefield*



*October 25th*  
**at the HOLIDAY INN**  
*on U.S. Hiway 2 in Hurley-Ironwood*

**U.P. & NORTHERN WISCONSIN**  
**51<sup>ST</sup> STATE OF SUPERIOR**

*Will hold a*  
 **JOINT RALLY**   
*at 2:00 p.m.*

The public is invited to witness NORTHERN WISCONSIN  
& the U.P. formally join together.

**DON'T MISS THIS HISTORY-MAKING EVENT!**




*November 1st at 2 p.m.*

**NORTHERN WISCONSIN**  
**51<sup>ST</sup> STATE OF SUPERIOR**

**will hold a**  
**PUBLIC MEETING** 

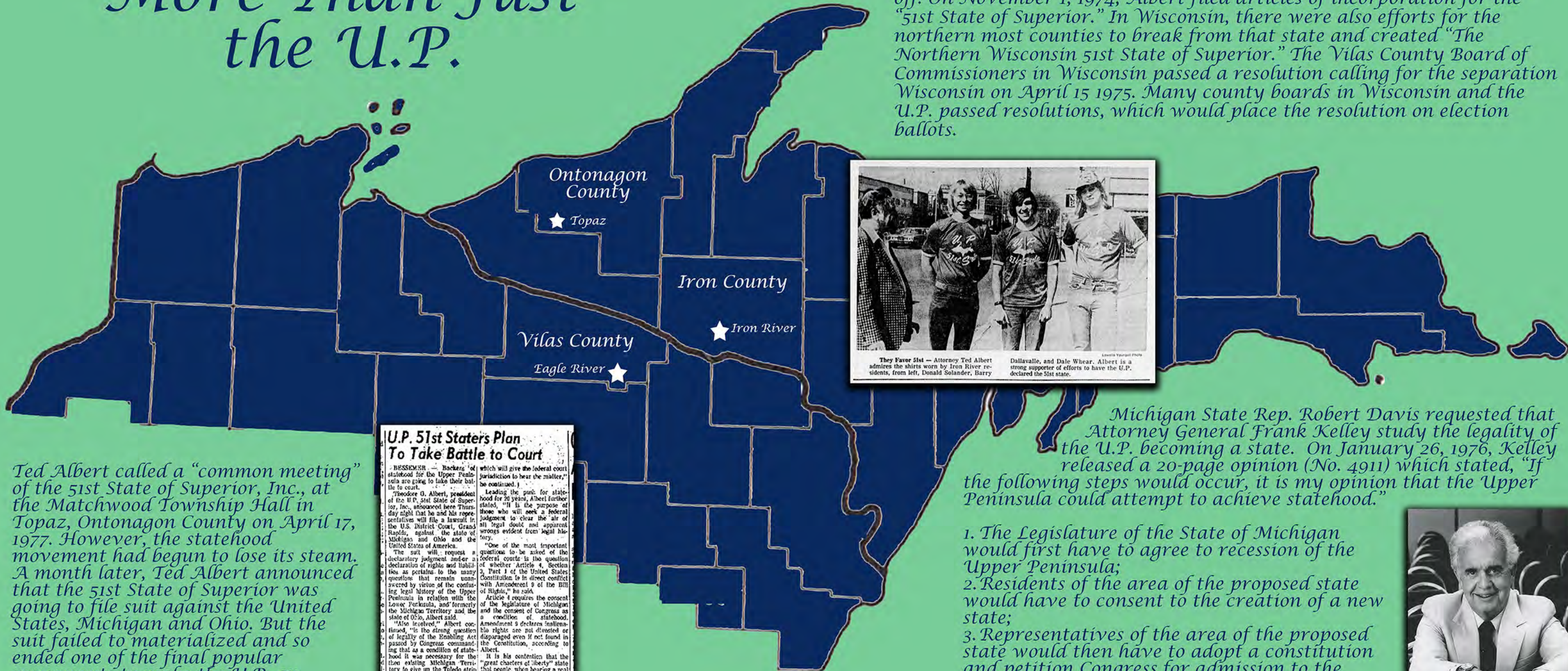
**at**  
**Mt. Telemark, Cable, Wisconsin**



**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE**  
**PLAN TO ATTEND & SPEAK YOUR MIND.**  
**THIS IS YOUR NEW STATE!**



# Superior is More Than Just the U.P.



Ted Albert was briefly involved with the Upper Peninsula Independence Association in 1962 but initially disagreed with making gambling legal (though later he embraced it). However, in the 1970s, his longstanding efforts towards building support for a statehood initiative began to pay off. On November 1, 1974, Albert filed articles of incorporation for the "51st State of Superior." In Wisconsin, there were also efforts for the northern most counties to break from that state and created "The Northern Wisconsin 51st State of Superior." The Vilas County Board of Commissioners in Wisconsin passed a resolution calling for the separation Wisconsin on April 15 1975. Many county boards in Wisconsin and the U.P. passed resolutions, which would place the resolution on election ballots.



They Favor 51st — Attorney Ted Albert admires the shirts worn by Iron River residents, from left, Donald Solander, Barry

Dallavalle, and Dale Whear. Albert is a strong supporter of efforts to have the U.P. declared the 51st state.

Ted Albert called a "common meeting" of the 51st State of Superior, Inc., at the Matchwood Township Hall in Topaz, Ontonagon County on April 17, 1977. However, the statehood movement had begun to lose its steam. A month later, Ted Albert announced that the 51st State of Superior was going to file suit against the United States, Michigan and Ohio. But the suit failed to materialized and so ended one of the final popular movements to make the U.P. an independent state.

Article from the May 27, 1977 issue of the Ironwood Daily Globe.

**U.P. 51st Staters Plan To Take Battle to Court**

BESSEMER — Backers of statehood for the Upper Peninsula are going to take their battle to court.

Theodore G. Albert, president of the U.P. 51st State of Superior, Inc., announced here Thursday night that he and his representatives will file a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court, Grand Rapids, against the state of Michigan and Ohio and the United States of America.

The suit will request a declaratory judgment and/or a declaration of rights and liabilities as pertains to the many questions that remain unanswered by virtue of the confusing legal history of the Upper Peninsula in relation with the Lower Peninsula, and formerly the Michigan Territory and the state of Ohio, Albert said.

"Also involved," Albert continued, "is the strong question of legality of the Enabling Act passed by Congress commanding that as a condition of statehood it was necessary for the then existing Michigan Territory to give up the Toledo strip and in turn accept as consolation aid in trade the Upper Peninsula of Michigan."

"The Attorney General's opinion, rendered Jan. 22, 1936, states there was no constitutional or legal deficiency in the manner in which the Upper Peninsula became part of Michigan. This represents a quasi-judicial and legal posture which will give the federal court jurisdiction to hear the matter," he continued.

Leading the push for statehood for 20 years, Albert further stated, "It is the purpose of those who will seek a federal judgment to clear the air of all legal doubt and apparent wrongs evident from legal history."

"One of the most important questions to be asked of the federal courts is the question of whether Article 4, Section 3, Part 1 of the United States Constitution is in direct conflict with Amendment 9 of the Bill of Rights," he said.

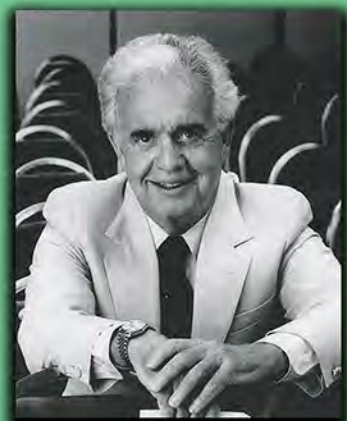
Article 4 requires the consent of the legislature of Michigan and the consent of Congress as a condition of statehood. Amendment 9 declares "inalienable rights are not divested or disparaged even if not found in the Constitution, according to Albert."

It is his contention that the "great charters of liberty" state that people, when bearing a real grievance, have the right to determine their own destiny.

The suit, to be filed within 10 days, represents an end to the "probing period" of the 51st staters, Albert said. Rallies and meetings are planned throughout the U.P. during the summer, he stated, with a major meeting scheduled at Marquette in June.

Michigan State Rep. Robert Davis requested that Attorney General Frank Kelley study the legality of the U.P. becoming a state. On January 26, 1976, Kelley released a 20-page opinion (No. 4911) which stated, "If the following steps would occur, it is my opinion that the Upper Peninsula could attempt to achieve statehood."

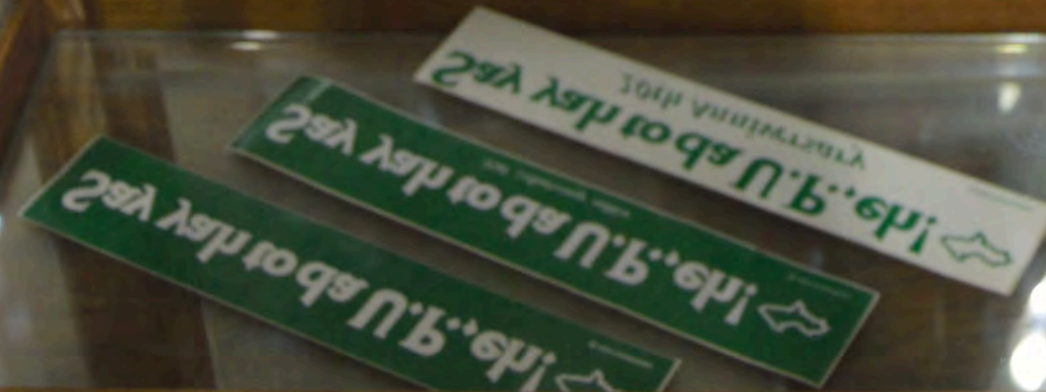
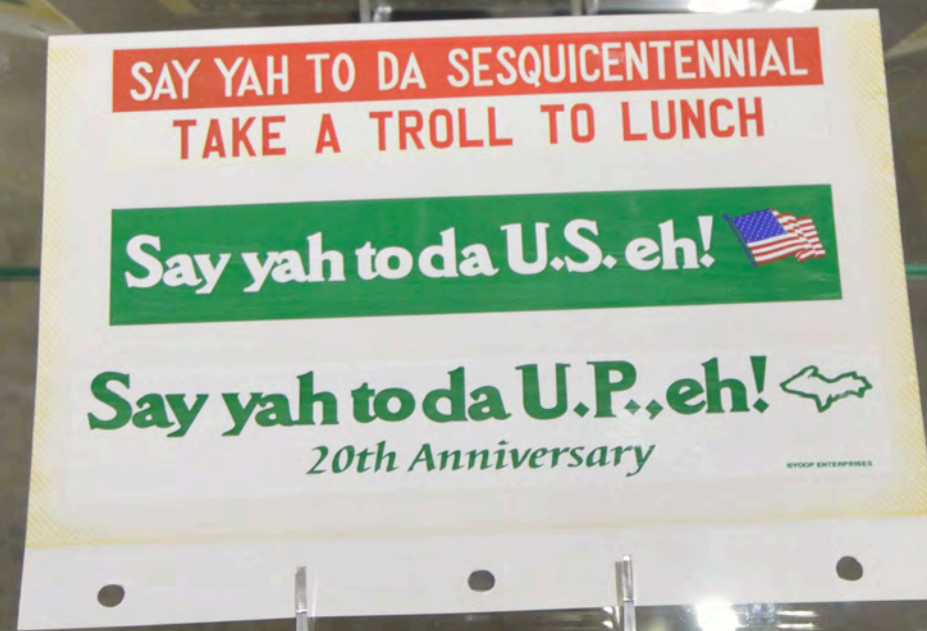
1. The Legislature of the State of Michigan would first have to agree to recession of the Upper Peninsula;
2. Residents of the area of the proposed state would have to consent to the creation of a new state;
3. Representatives of the area of the proposed state would then have to adopt a constitution and petition Congress for admission to the union; and
4. Congress would then have to pass by majority vote and act admitting the new state into the Union.



Frank Kelley

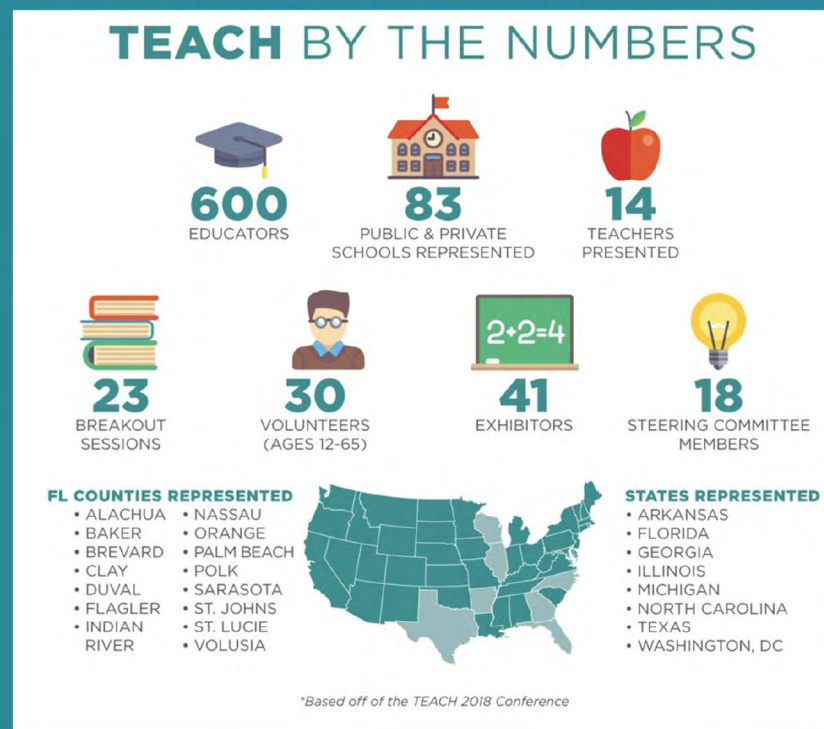
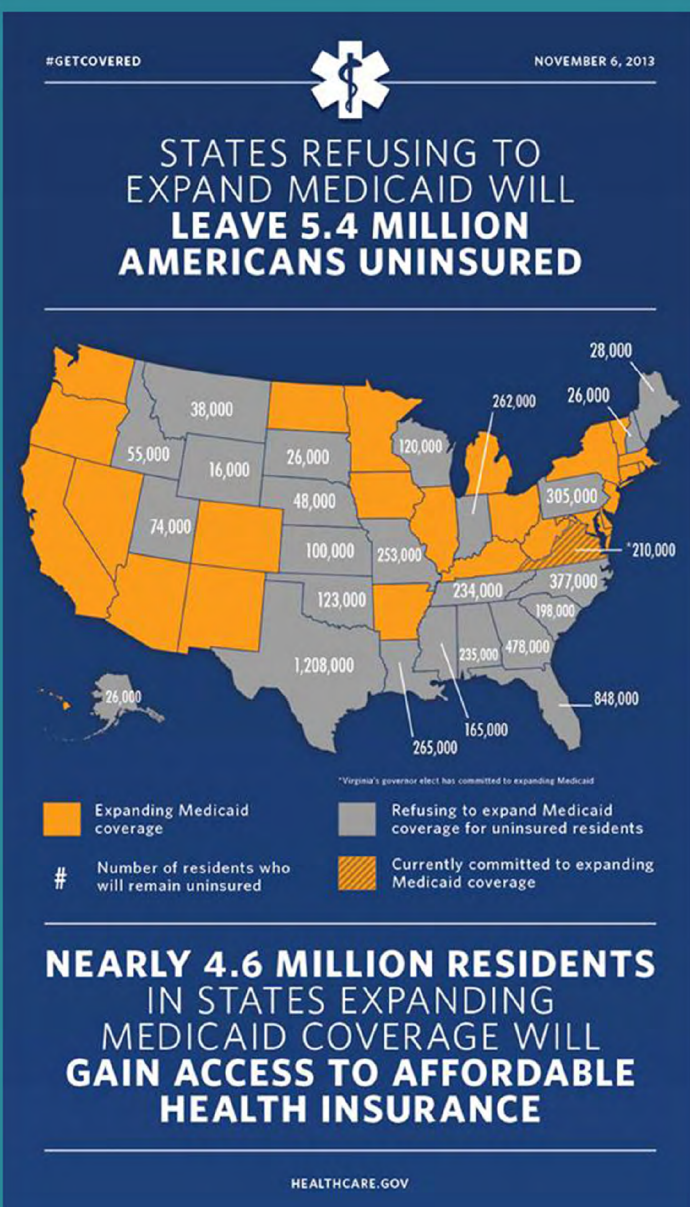
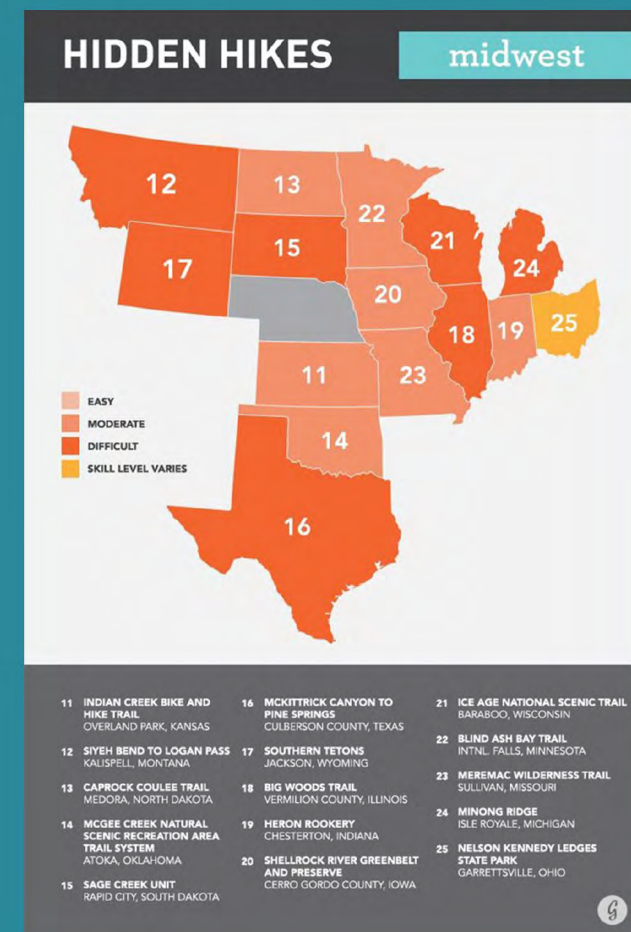
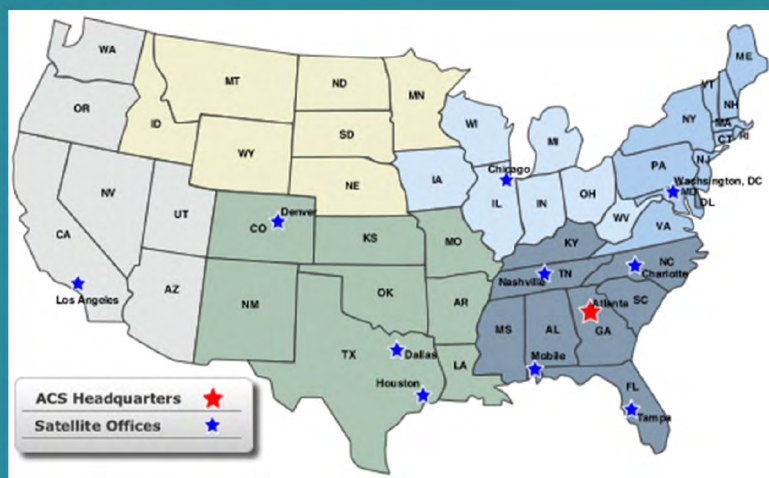


*In the 1970s, the State of Michigan began a marketing campaign called, "Say Yes to Michigan!" In 1983, Marquette artist Jack Bowers was inspired by this slogan to create one for the U.P. Thus, the "Say Yah to da U.P., eh!" bumper sticker was born. Since then it has gone through several different designs and has been highly copied. Bowers says that he has sold more than 50,000 copies of the bumper sticker over the past 36 years.*

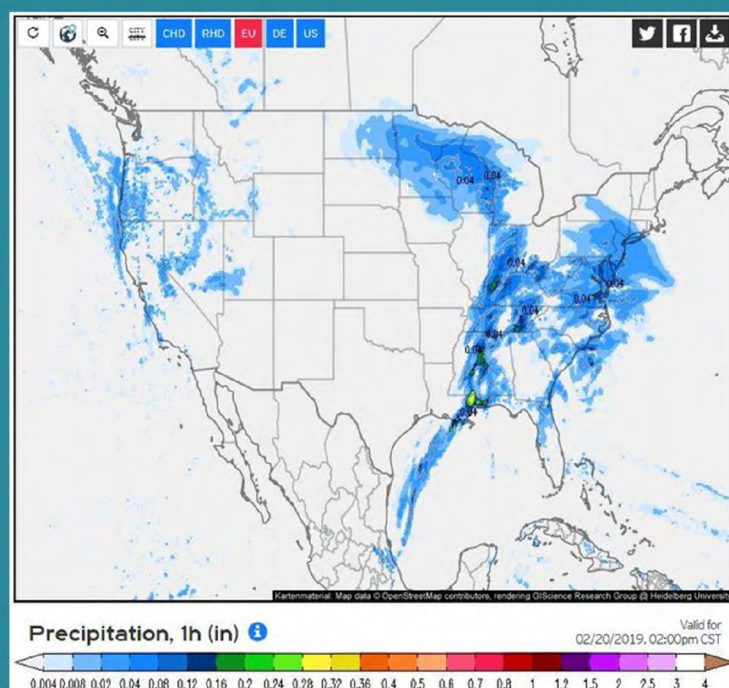
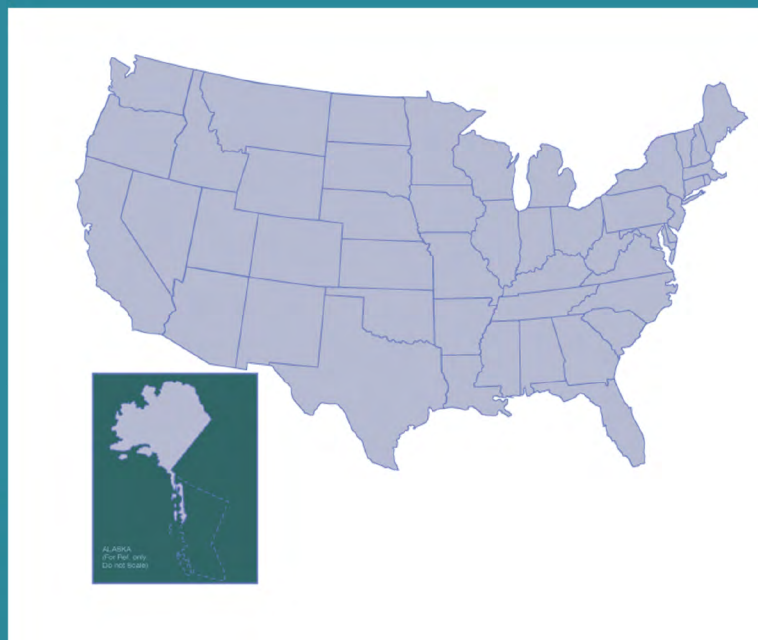




# Maps Without the U.P.



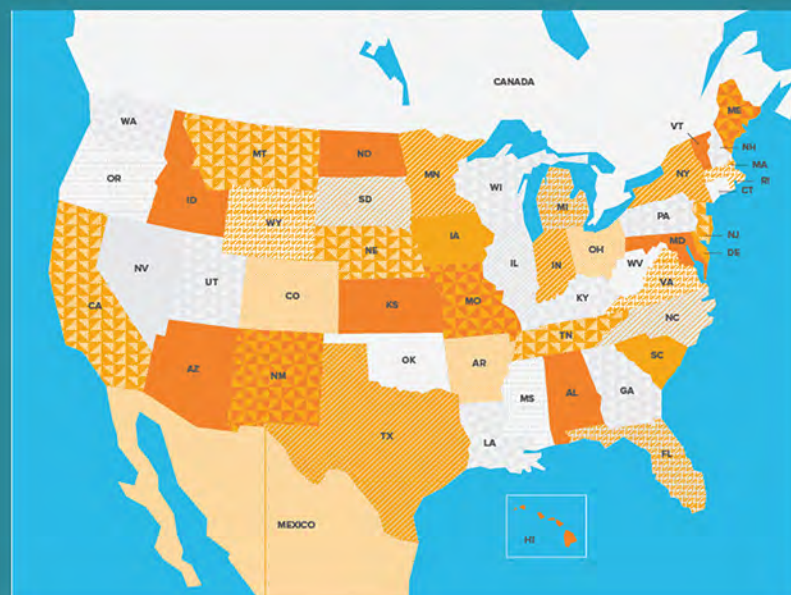
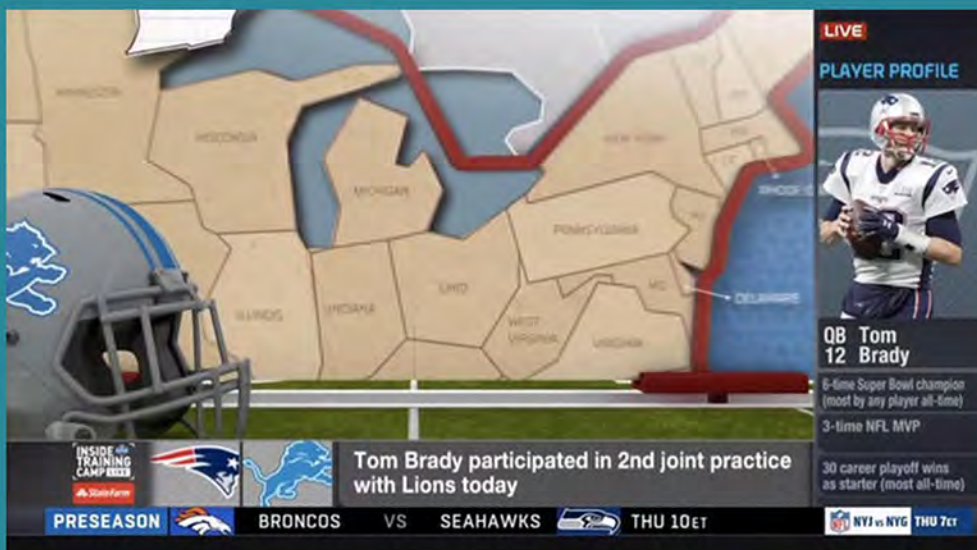
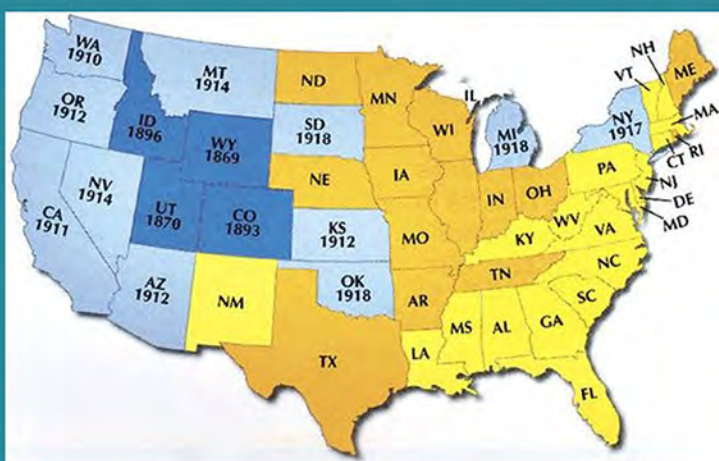
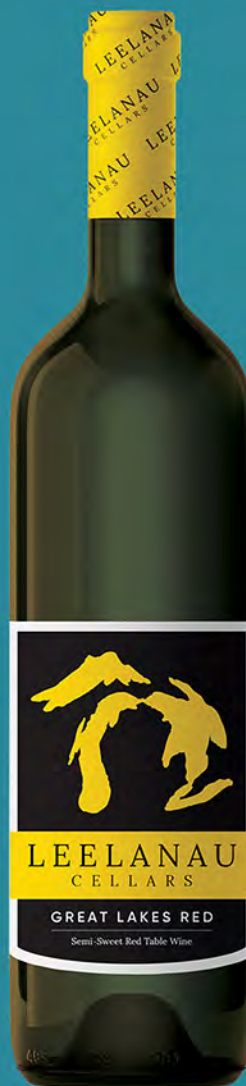
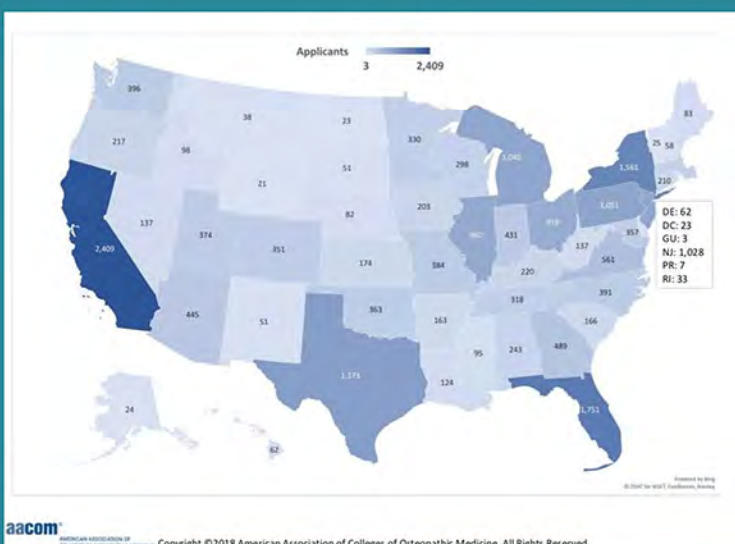
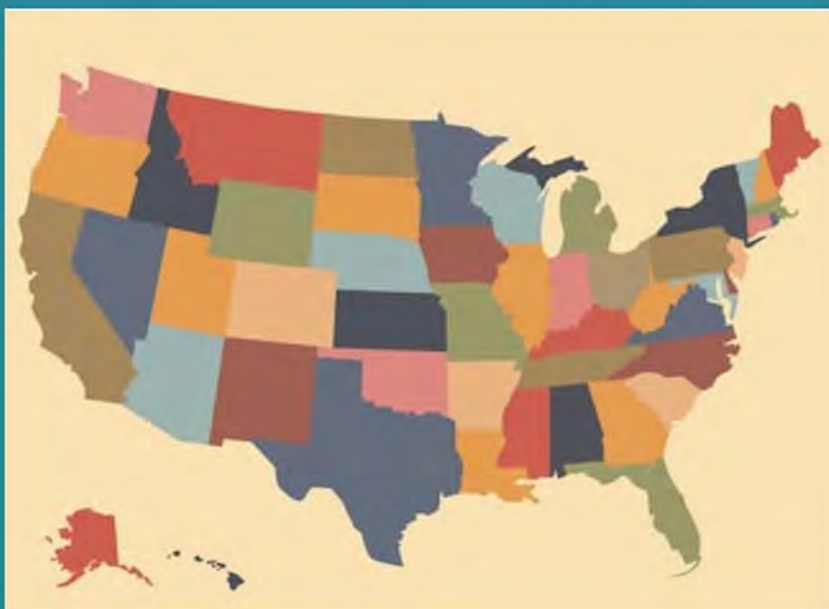
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# Innacurate Maps





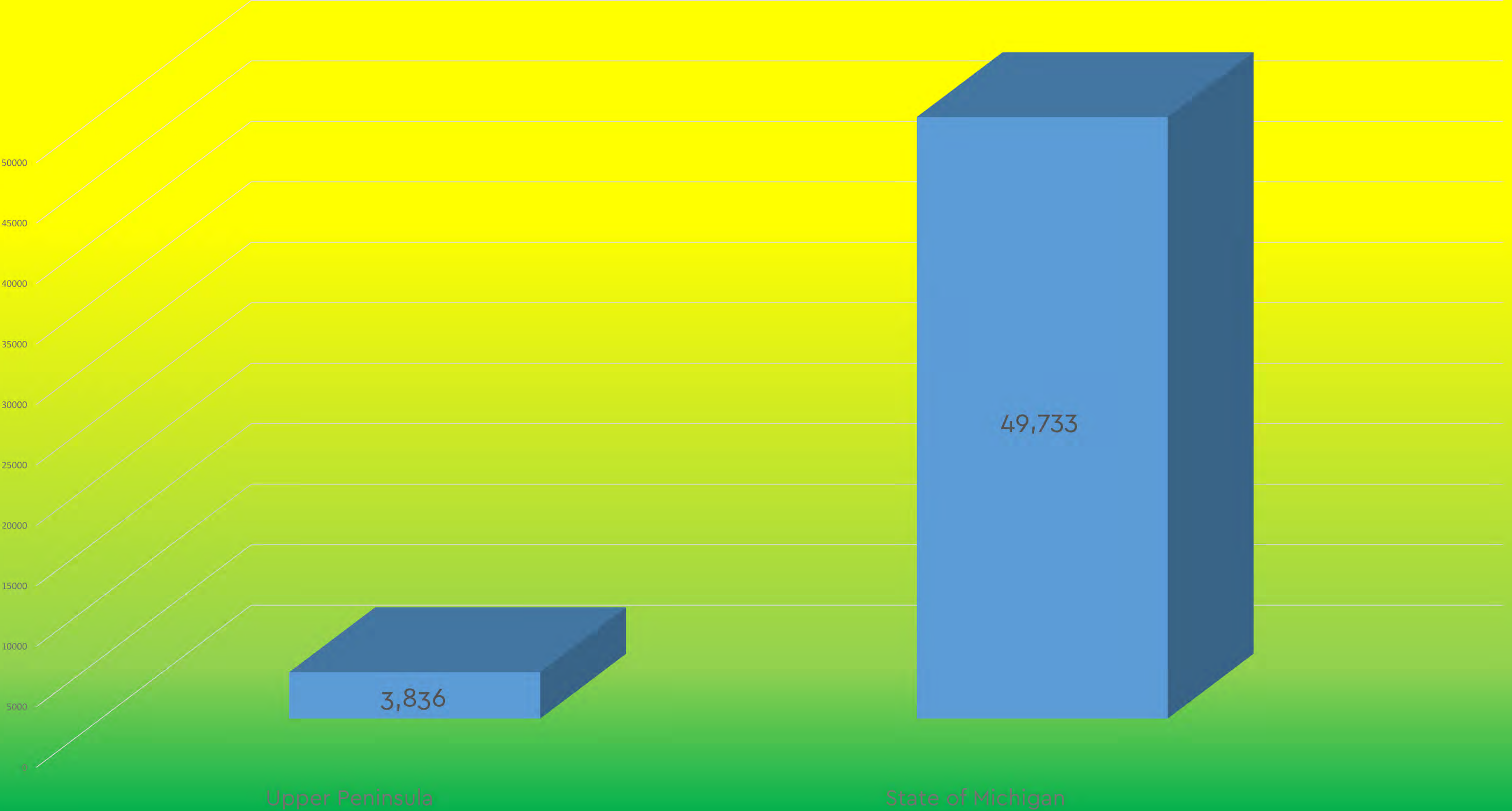
# *The Bottom Line*

*Ever since U.P. statehood became an issue, one the biggest cons against was the economic viability of it being its own state. Where before the Great Depression, the Upper Peninsula's population and economic security was on par with several states in the Union, today it is far behind in both categories. Where it would rank 42 in geographic size, it would be 51st in population (270,000 people less than number 50 - Wyoming). It would also have the highest unemployment rate in the nation (6.3%). Where it is possible that the U.P. could manage with a much smaller government than most states, such a change would have a drastic impact on the economy and employment in the region. The 15 counties of the Upper Peninsula receive far more aid per person than the rest of the State of Michigan. The charts on this wall will give some idea of the disparity in comparison with the rest of the State concerning employment, college appropriations and services.*

*In conclusion, though there are many geographic, cultural and emotional reasons why people would like the U.P. to be its own state, the impact this would have on the economic life to the region could be devastating.*

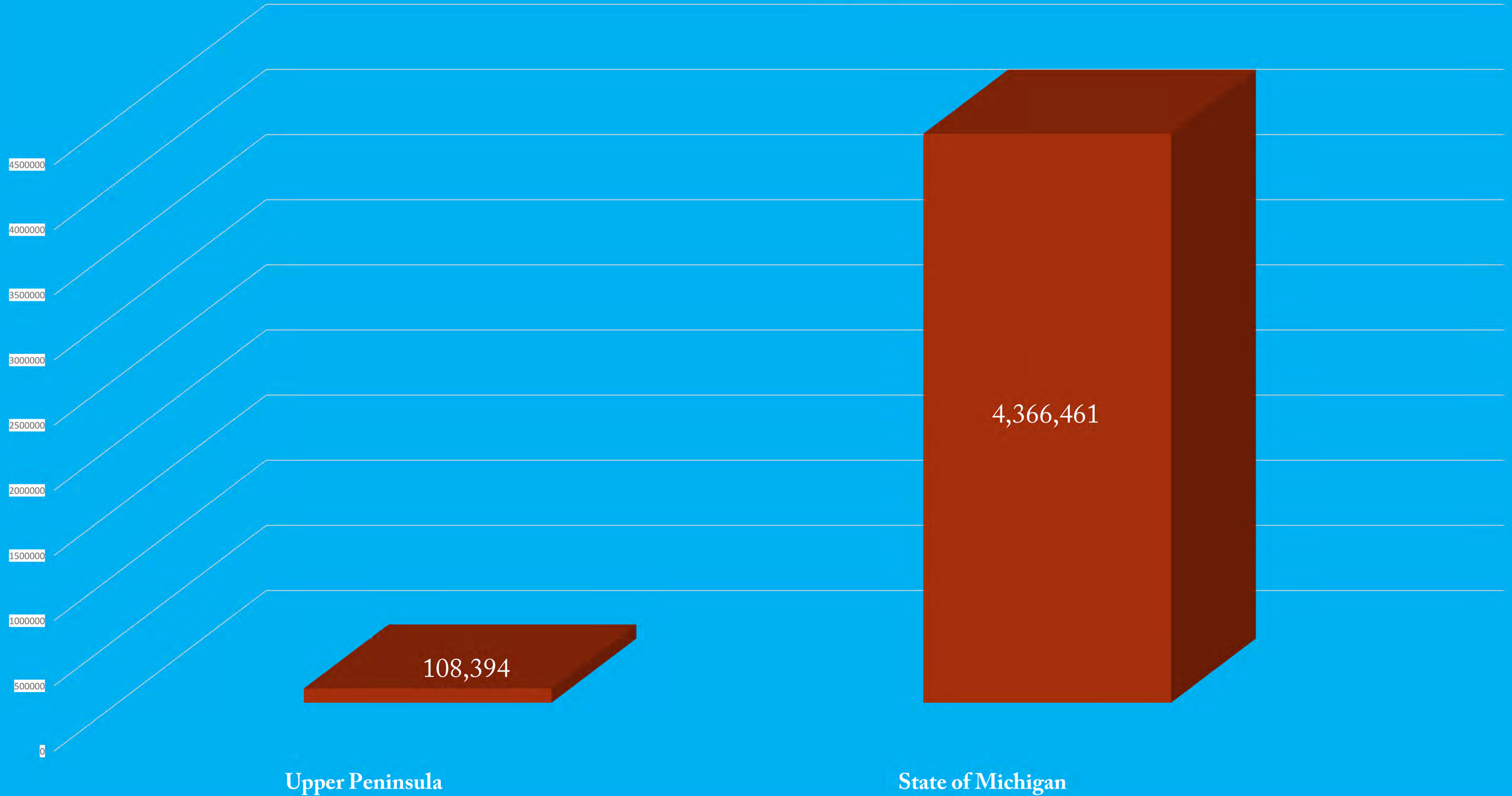


# Number of State Employees



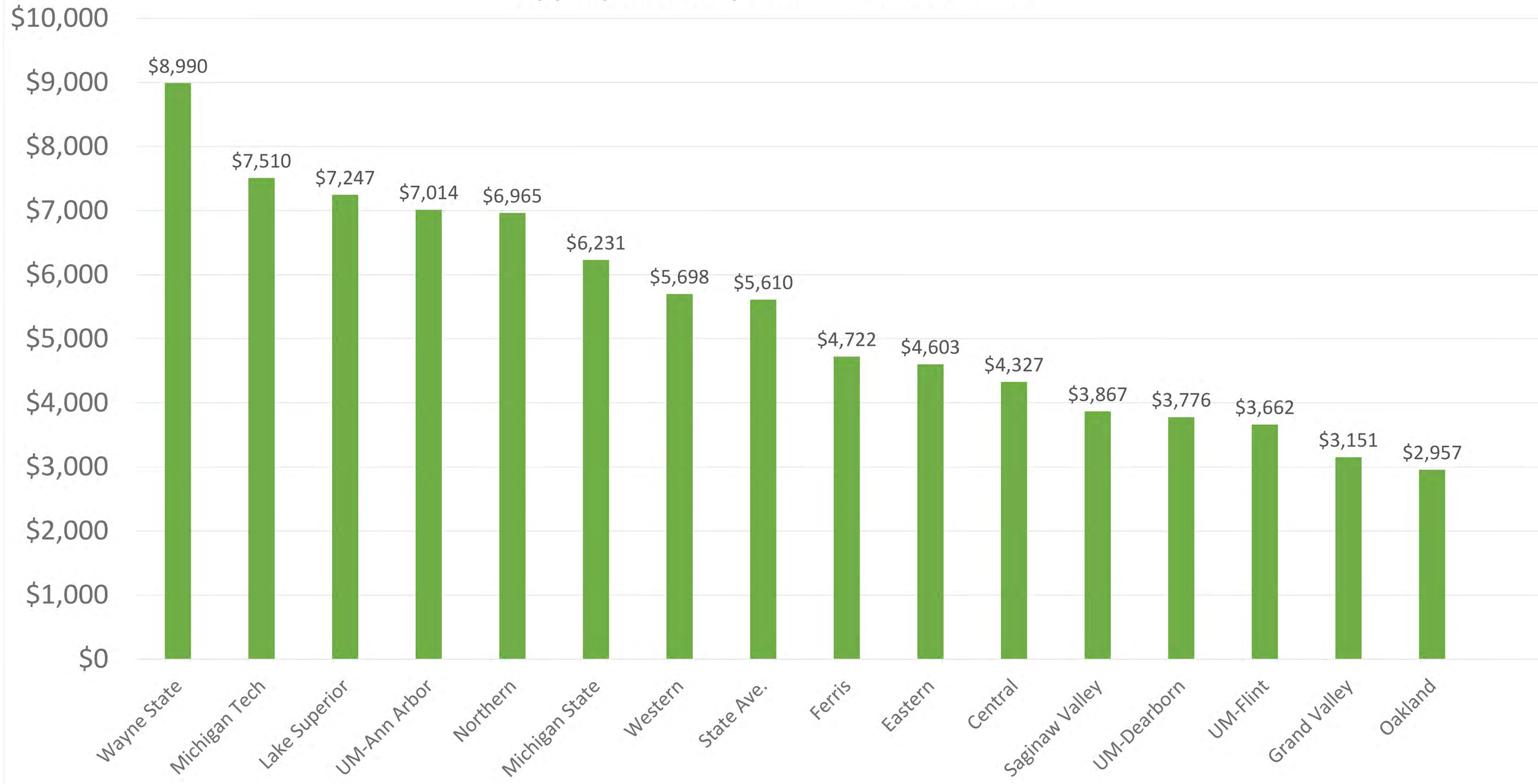


# Number of Workers by population



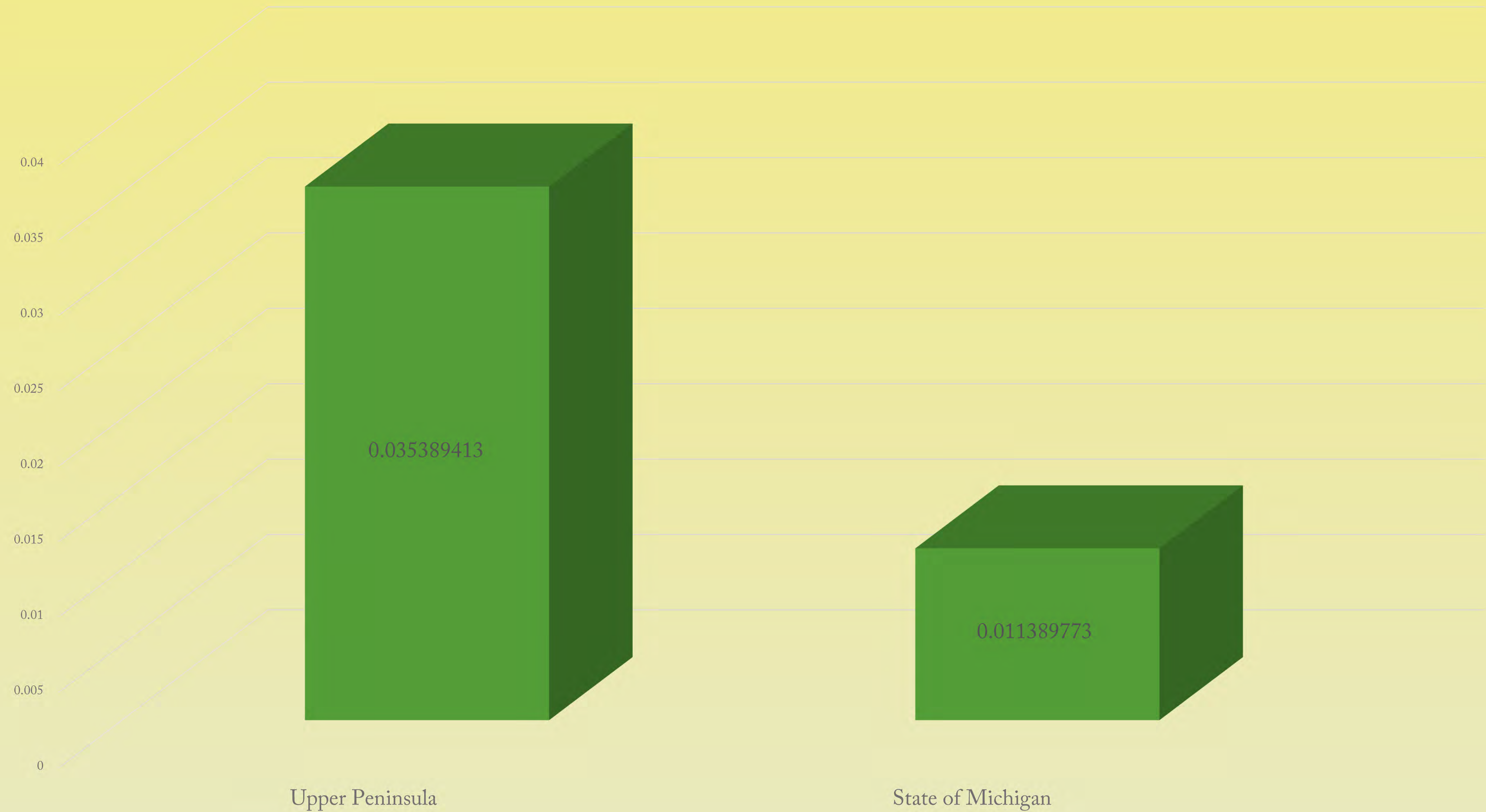


## Appropriations per Full-Time Student





Percentage of Population that are State Employees





# State University/College Appropriation per person (Population)

STATE OF MICHIGAN

\$175

UPPER PENINSULA

\$391

\$0

\$50

\$100

\$150

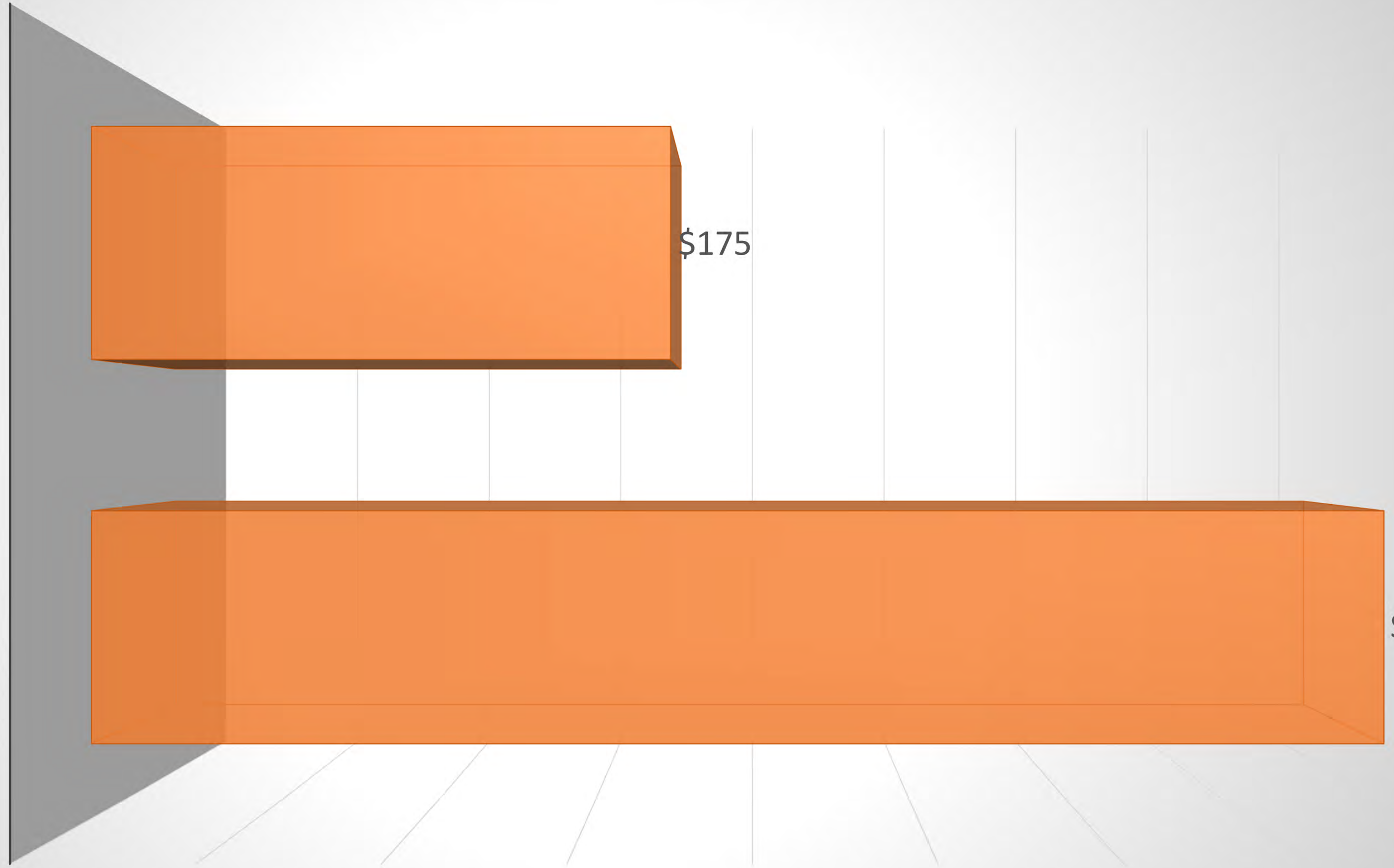
\$200

\$250

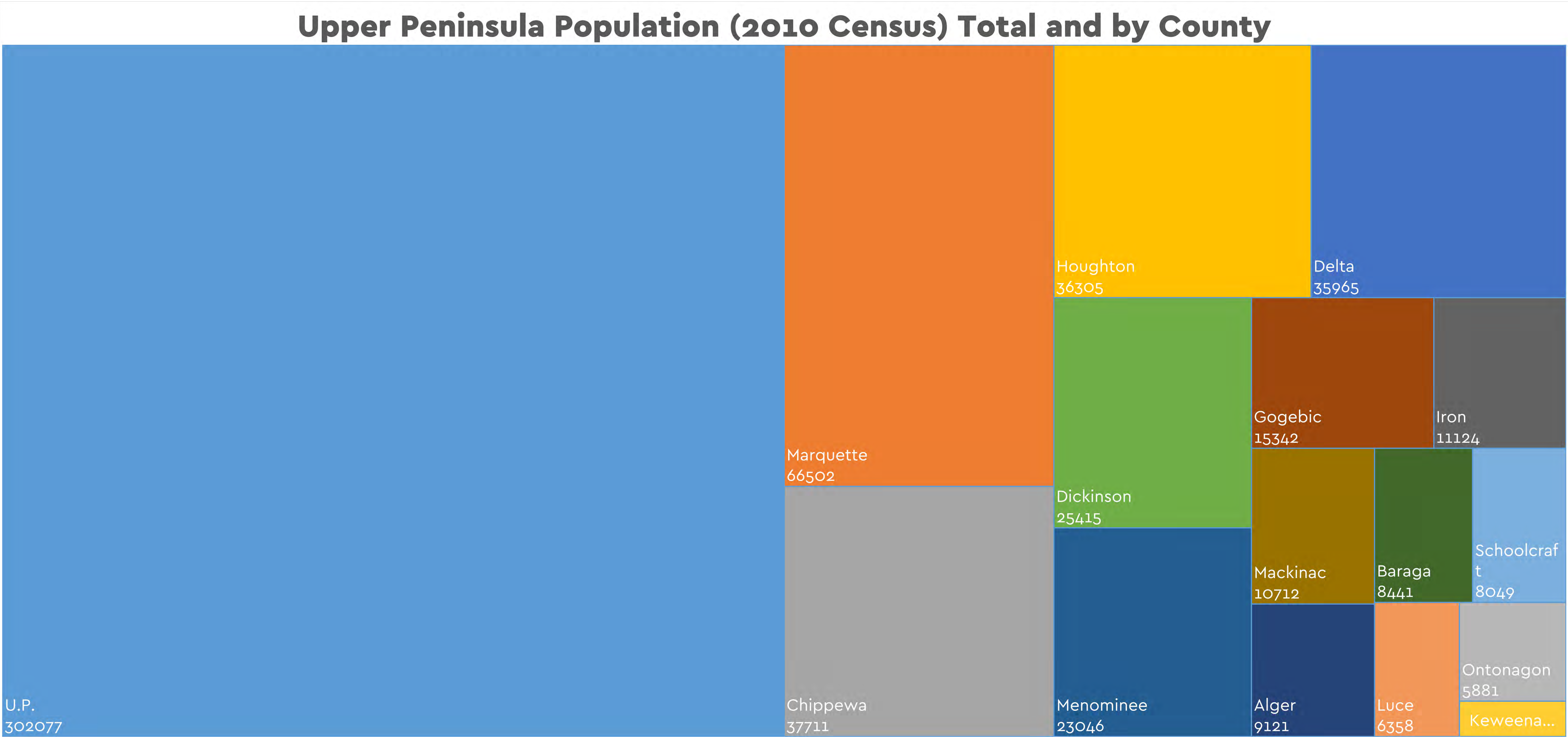
\$300

\$350

\$400

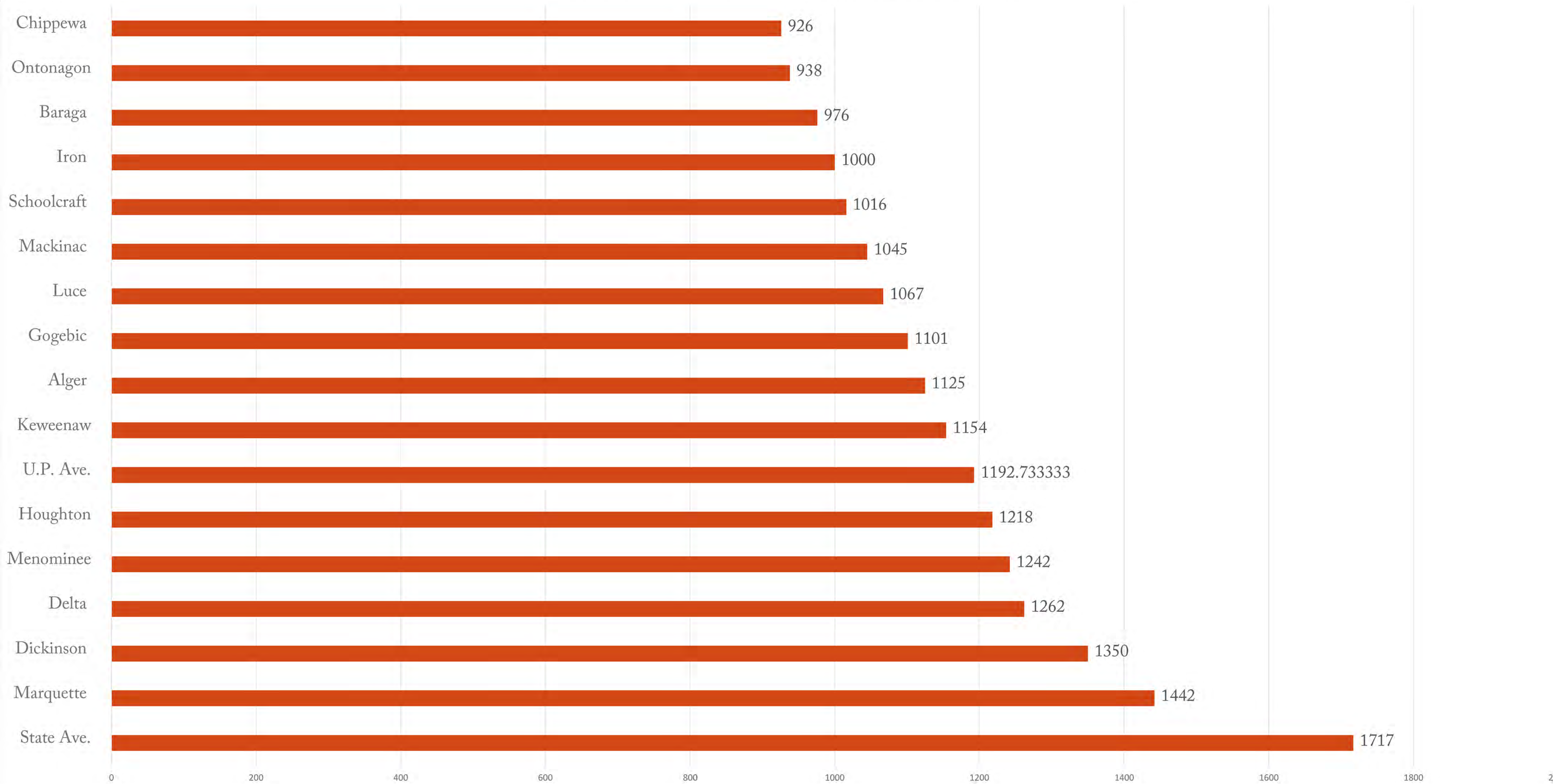








# Income Tax After Credits per Person



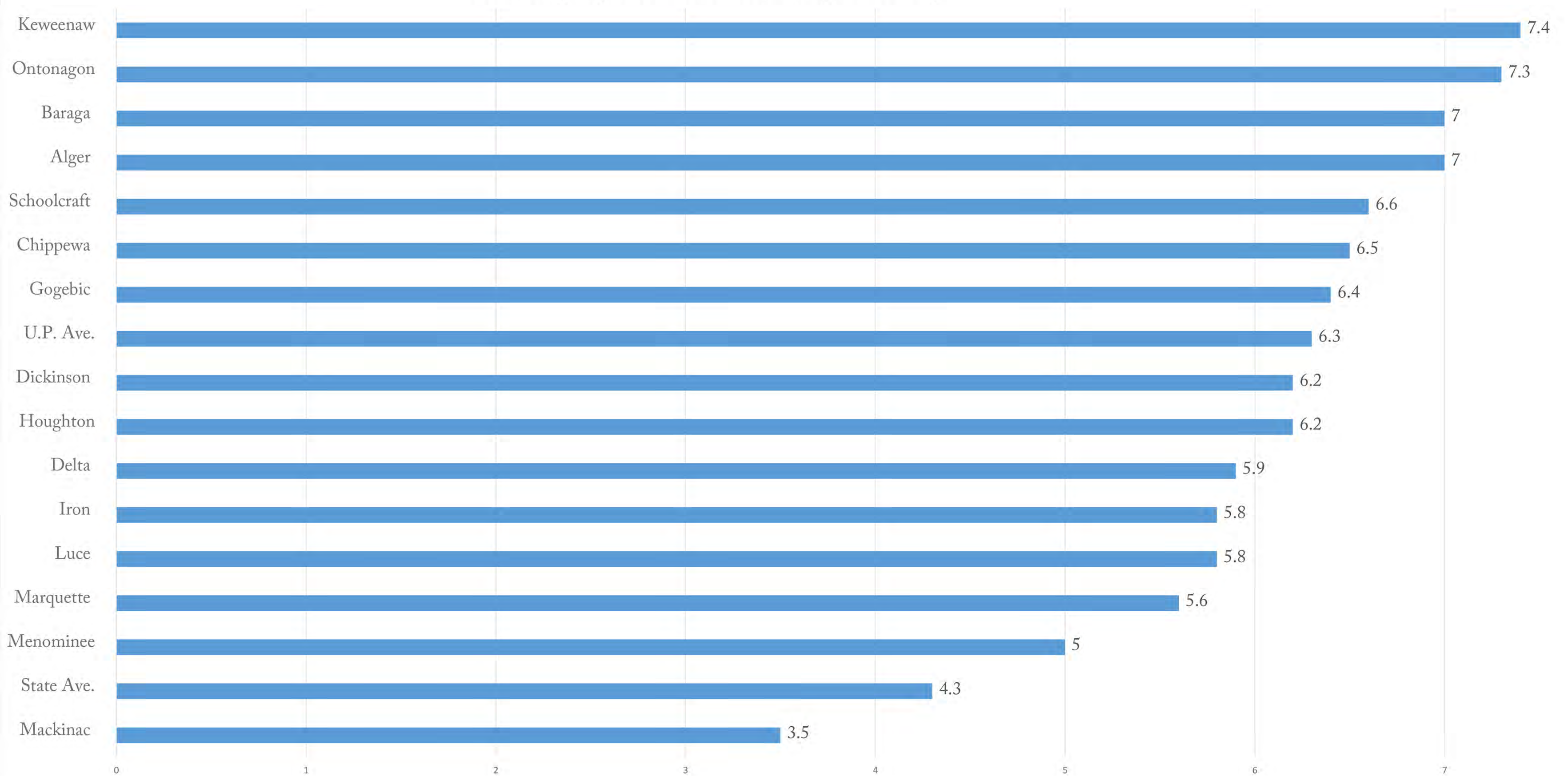


## Tax Ave. Before Tax Credits by County





# Unemployment Rate (%) by County











For over 180 years, there has been at times an uneasy alliance between the Lower and Upper Peninsulas. But it is also true that we need each other. Being part of a greater Michigan has given the Upper Peninsula more economic security than it would've had on its own. Michigan needs the U.P. as well. Without its resources, the state could not have become an industrial powerhouse. Today, the U.P. is one of the Midwest's biggest tourist destinations and a centerpiece of the "Pure Michigan" travel campaign.

Regardless, of our official connection, it is true that the two peninsulas are different states of mind. The Mackinac Bridge did not eliminate the cultural gap between the U.P. and L.P. In a way, they are separate states, connected by an economic interconnectedness that is essential to both. However, when you travel across either peninsula, it is common to see maps of each used without the other.

Maybe this is what makes the Great Lake State so great. We are one, we are two. Michiganders and Yoopers.





# Acknowledgements

*These books were key to developing the narrative for this exhibition:*

*Superior, a state for the north country by James L. Carter, 1980, Pilot Press, Marquette.*

*Ted & Superior by Bruce K. Cox, 2009, Agogeebic Press LLC, Wakefield.*

*The Toledo War: the first Michigan-Ohio rivalry by Don Faber, 2008, University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor.*

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Ontonagon County Historical Society

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Bessemer County Historical Society

- Richard Steiger

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- Beth Gruber

- Jo Wittler

Chippewa County Historical Society

- Mary June

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State Library of Michigan

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Jack Bowers

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