

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News from Save Our Shoreline, Inc.

For more information:

Ernie Krygier
President
989-793-3711

SOS Takes Case to Lansing

BAY CITY, Michigan – November 8, 2002 – Save Our Shoreline board members Ernie Krygier, David Powers and Joe McBride provided testimony before the Land Use and Environmental Committee Chaired by Ruth Johnson – R to encourage passage of House Bill 6418. HB 6418 was introduced by Representative Brian Palmer - R to permit shoreline property owners to groom their beaches as they have for decades without the need for a permit from the MDEQ. Congressman and State Senator-Elect Jim Barcia –D and Representative Dale Sheltron- D provided eloquent presentations on the issue and strongly supported the Bill. SOS provided a 15-minute PowerPoint presentation on the problems shoreline property owners face because of the contentious and unlawful acts of MDEQ. SOS discussed the importance of safe and clean private and public beaches, the value of tourism, public health and safety issues, the importance of maintaining a strong tax base, the economic impact on communities and the fact that there is no basis in the law that permits MDEQ to prohibit beach grooming. At the conclusion of the presentation over 50 SOS members cheered. Supporting testimony was also received from Traverse City and Portage Lake individuals and the Western Michigan Tourism Association. Committee Chair Johnson complimented SOS on its presentation, she acknowledged the need to address the needs of shoreline owners to maintain their beaches, and indicated the committee would be working on this important bill.

“This is another step in SOS strategy to preserve fundamental property rights for shoreline property owners and to encourage the MDEQ to follow the law and not their own agenda,” said SOS President Ernie Krygier. “We are extremely pleased with the way the committee received our presentation, and we look forward to working with state lawmakers for the benefit of shoreline residents and their communities,” he said.

Founded in 2001, Save Our Shoreline is a nonprofit membership basis corporation of over 1,500 households committed to the preservation of beaches and waterfront areas, and to the protection of rights to maintain beaches and waterfront areas. Those interested in Save Our Shoreline can find more information at <http://www.saveourshoreline.org/> or by calling (989) 667-2910. For more information about this press release, contact Ernie Krygier at (989) 793-3711.

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