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News from Save Our Shoreline, Inc.

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**Save Our Shoreline Fires Back on Beach Report**

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Before a joint meeting of State House and Senate committees, Save Our Shoreline yesterday presented several scientists who challenged the MDEQ's beachgrooming study released in March. Scientists included Dr. Robert Pierce of Washington, D.C.; Dr. Gary Pierce of Hastings, Michigan; Dr. Thomas Waytes of Lansing, Michigan; and Brooks Williamson of Wixom, Michigan. The scientists called into question many of the assumptions and conclusions of the Report and its underlying studies and were critical of the Report's methodology. For example, Dr. Robert Pierce concluded that the studies contained "significant errors, exclusions and inconsistencies," and that as a result of "fundamental flaws," he could not draw any conclusions from the Report.

In addition to the scientific testimony, SOS presented a recorded audio-visual presentation narrated by WSGW's Art Lewis. The presentation was distributed to legislators in the form of a DVD, and included photographs and video footage demonstrating the difference between beaches and established wetlands.

Legislators hearing the evidence were impressed by the presentation. Senator James Barcia characterized it as "an enlightening presentation that disclosed the flaws in the methodology of the DEQ-commissioned study." Representative Brian Palmer commented: "The scientists today confirmed that the DEQ study was misdirected in that it did not focus on the impact of beach grooming and historical beaches, but instead compared traditional beaches to environmental areas and established coastal wetlands, wasting \$200,000 of mostly taxpayer money in the process."

Founded in 2001, Save Our Shoreline is a nonprofit membership basis corporation of over 3200 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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