



michigan league of
conservation voters

213 W. Liberty St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104
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Testimony on SB 1130
Michigan Senate
Committee on Natural Resources, Environment, and Great Lakes

Dear Senators,

The Michigan League of Conservation Voters opposes SB 1130 as currently written.

Critical sand dunes are the highest and most iconic in Michigan. They account for roughly 70,000 of the 250,000 total acres of sand dunes in Michigan. They draw tourists from around the world, and Sleeping Bear Dunes was even named "The Most Beautiful Place in America" last year.

Sand dunes, however, are vulnerable. They require and deserve the protection afforded them in the current law. SB 1130 changes the purpose of NREPA Part 353 from ensuring that development does not negatively impact the dunes to "balancing" environmental interests with development interests.

However, this bill does not balance those interests; its effect would be to promote unfettered development within these critical dune areas, going beyond what would be necessary to address the issue of regulatory takings.

Critical sand dunes are rare, vulnerable, and iconic natural resources. Development within them *should* only occur when the protection of the environment and ecology of critical dunes is assured for present and future generations.

Therefore, we urge you to vote "no" on SB 1130. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Drew YoungeDyke
Policy & Communications Specialist