

Tony Mosesso

From: j.greenslit@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, March 19, 2014 2:50 PM
To: Tony Mosesso
Cc: Nancy Krupiarz; senrjones@senate.gov
Subject: Outdoor Recreation

As the Director of Eaton County Parks, and the administrator of 9 Parks and over 10 miles of Trails, the unification and consolidation of the Michigan Trailways Act legislation has my full support. As Michigan's status as the Number One Trails State in the USA, the quality of the experience is truly a boost to economic development of the Tourism industry and general job creation policies.

At a recent public hearing in Charlotte, a consultant reported that one family of 4 that would relocate in Michigan because of our "quality of life" reputation would generate around \$150,000 annually to our economy. The Anderson Economic Group reported in 2013 that overnight visitors to the Lansing Convention Bureau District spend around \$256 per day and daily visitors spend about \$100.

These economic values bring positive support to maintaining our outstanding Trails system in Michigan, including the latest technical strategies in marketing our State. While the hospitality industry in Michigan rises well above the quality standards for our competitors in other States, the natural resource base of land and water access via Trails is unmatched by any other State or Nation.

Finally, as the former Chairman of the National Lewis and Clark Trail Foundation and member of the Presidential Lewis and Clark Trail Commission, the stewardship within Michigan far exceeds that of any known standard of excellence. While under the national radar, the improvement of the Trailways Act can only lead to bigger and better results for our citizens, visitors, investors and communities.

John F. Greenslit
Director, Eaton County Parks
133 Fitzgerald Park Drive, Grand Ledge, MI 48837
517-627-7351
jgreenslit@eatoncounty.org.