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February 7, 2019

Senator Peter Lucido, Chairman  
Senate Oversight Committee  
1300 Binsfeld Office Building  
Lansing, MI 48909

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

As an avid conservationist and trail advocate, I want to take a moment to highly recommend your committee's approval of Dan Eichinger as the Director of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

I have had the distinct pleasure and privilege of working with Dan over the last ten years in a variety of capacities, first in his role as liaison for the MDNR under Governor Granholm and then in his role as the Executive Director of the Michigan United Conservation Clubs. Dan is a conservationist at heart and someone who understands the importance of maintaining the sustainability of our natural resources for the common good of the people of this state.

Dan and I share this vision because we both understand that the constitutional charge given to the Legislature in Article IV, Section 52 of the Michigan Constitution to "protect our natural resources from pollution, impairment and destruction" is a shared responsibility that we all must engage in. Dan has honored this charge with his conservation work in conserving lands, waters, wildlife, parks and trails as well as related-natural resources conservation activities like hunting and fishing.

Dan and I worked together to fashion legislation to provide for the Recreation Passport program and most recently have worked to provide more flexible and enduring uses of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund with passage of SJR O and the statutory components signed into law by Governor Snyder at the end of last year. Dan understands the importance of working with the legislature and taking measured steps to conserve our natural resources.

Dan is straight-forward and hard-working. I believe he will be a fine chief advocate for our state's natural resources and for this reason, I support your committee's recommendation for advice and consent.

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Should you wish additional support for Dan, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Wilson', with a large, stylized initial 'B'.

Bob Wilson

Executive Director, Michigan Trails and Greenways Alliance



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