



## MACKINAW CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

March 12, 2012

Dear House of Natural Resources Committee,

The Mackinaw City Chamber of Commerce business and community network support the legislation for the 23,000 acre "***Dark Sky Coast***". Michigan is known for our water and land. Now- look up! We've got "pure night sky" with our International Dark Sky Park and bonus- a qualifying coastline too!

God has blessed Northern Michigan with a natural resource trilogy for us to preserve.

Travel in the technology age requires the outdoor component of fresh air, walking trails, geocaching, biking, water sports etc. Mackinaw City has attractions for the young and old seeking adventure plus hands on knowledge of our rich area history. Lakeshore picnics and family time are a priority as is a quiet evening of stargazing at the Headlands. "Enjoy Michigan's outdoor classroom" as Bill Shepler of Shepler's Ferry always says.

The Chamber of Commerce enjoyed welcoming millions of visitors from across our country last year. Our log book includes world travelers from Thailand, Indonesia, Japan, Poland, England, Germany and Finland to name a few, who came to experience our area and enjoy the night sky at the International Dark Sky Park.

We thank Emmet County for embracing the vision and Mary Stuart Adams for sharing her wealth of knowledge with all of us.

It is now up to all of you-

Like the old Crooner sang..."would you like to swing on a star, carry moonbeams home in a jar...."

...Come to Michigan's "***Dark Sky Coast***" .....Look Up! A star has your name on it!

Regards,

**Dawn**

Dawn Edwards

Executive Director

Mackinaw City Chamber of Commerce

***LIVING HISTORY.MAKING HISTORY.***

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