

PHILIP TRUPIANO
9985 SOUTH CHANNEL DRIVE
HARSENS ISLAND, MI 48028

Senator Dan Lauwers
S-2 Capitol Building
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear Senator Lauwers,

I am a cottage owner on Harsens Island with waterfront immediately adjacent to the South Channel at the south end of the Island. As you know we are experiencing record high water levels throughout the Great Lakes that, if forecast predictions hold true this summer, will cause serious property damage to many homeowners on Harsens Island and elsewhere in the State. While the water levels are cyclically caused by nature, the damage is exacerbated by boats traveling in the Channel throwing wakes that make the high levels even more dangerous. I speak on behalf of many other Harsens Island and Clay Township property owners who have appealed to Clay Township Supervisor Artie Bryson for relief from these destructive boat wakes by seeking to make the narrow South Channel a no-wake zone from Gull Island to Russell Island. This is a distance of approximately ten miles with homes and cottages along the entire length of Harsens Island.

Supervisor Bryson has advised us that he has been lobbying the Legislature for relief in the form of House Bills 5401 and 5402 but that unfortunately the corrective language in the Bills has been gutted by lobbyist influence against the Bills. Everyone knows the water levels are highest in July and August, yet the rewritten Bill passed by the House only applies from September 1 to June 20! Makes no sense whatsoever!

We understand that the Senate DNR Committee is taking up the proposed legislation tomorrow. We ask for your help in correcting this obvious attack to destroy the purpose of these Bills by restoring the original language proposed in the House. This issue is just plain common sense. Water levels are already dangerously high and boat wake only makes it worse. Please help us prevent even greater property damage by taking this preventative measure of declaring no wake zones when the water is this high.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Trupiano
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