

2/7/2018



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February 6, 2018

Representative Gary Howell  
Chairman NR Committee  
PO Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Senator Casperson:

The Lake Superior Community Partnership (LSCP) is a private-public partnership in Marquette County, Michigan whose mission is focused on the promotion and advancement of economic and community development. We are an Accredited Economic Development Organization through the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) and serve as Marquette County's leading resource for economic development. The LSCP is committed to facilitating job creation, retaining existing business, assisting with business growth and attracting new businesses to our region. Our partner businesses, 400 strong, are committed to this mission through the investment of time and resources.

The LSCP supports Senate Bill 390 which will reallocate a portion of funds to support development of ferrous mineral reclamation fund and also reallocate \$500,000 of specific tax revenues to provide financial support for schools in Marquette County. As an economic development organization we see the benefits that this bill will bring not only to the one of our largest employers in the county, Tilden Mine, but also to the local schools in the area who have been impacted by the idling of Empire Mine.

Senate Bill 390 will allow the State of Michigan to assist five of the school districts who were financially burdened with the idling of Empire Mine. It will allow those school districts to maintain programs that have positive impacts on students by not adversely affecting specific ore tax revenues that already currently benefit local units of government. It is also critical that the bill protect our environment in the long term with funds set aside for reclamation so as not to financially impact the local communities upon end of mine life. This scenario is a win-win scenario for the State, local communities and an economically important industry.

On behalf of the Lake Superior Community Partnership, we urge you to support Senate Bill 390 that will keep a greater portion of specific ore tax receipts local and providing long-term support for local schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy J. Clickner".

Amy J. Clickner  
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Senator Tom Casperson  
Senator Wayne Schmidt  
Representative Scott Dianda  
Representative Lee Chatfield  
Representative Beau LaFave  
Representative Sara Cambensy