

TOWN OF LA POINTE, ASHLAND COUNTY
RESOLUTION 24-0910

Whereas; H.R. 9111 would redesignate the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore as the Apostle Islands National Park and Preserve, and for other purposes; and,

Whereas; The stated reason for the proposed redesignation is to increase tourism to create economic growth by creating more jobs, private investment in hospitality facilities and services, and public infrastructure investments; and,

Whereas; The Town of La Pointe encompasses the whole of Madeline Island, the largest of the Apostle Islands and the only island in the archipelago not in the National Lakeshore; and,

Whereas; Madeline Island's infrastructure is already stretched to the breaking point during the summer tourist season; and,

Whereas; No feasibility study has been proposed or completed to establish what private and public facilities, accommodations, and infrastructure would be required to accommodate more tourists, as well what the Federal land and our neighboring communities' capacities are for accommodating more tourists; and,

Whereas; The proposal would prohibit hunting and trapping on approximately 39,000 acres of land which are now open and available to these recreational activities; and,

Whereas; Designating Sand Island as a preserve would reduce the protection of the natural, historical and cultural resources on the island since natural resource extractions and uses such as mining and logging could be allowed and commercial development such as resorts and marinas could be allowed; and,

Whereas; The proposal does not address the existing backlog of deferred maintenance within the Apostle Island National Lakeshore; and,

Whereas; The Proposal does not address the resources and services the Park Service needs for either the current level of visitors or for the anticipated increase in visitor use if it becomes a National Park; and,

Whereas; The current National Lakeshore designation adequately and appropriately protects the natural, cultural and historic resources while allowing for public use and enjoyment. The proposal is a 'solution' in search of a problem;

Whereas; The proposal is more than just a name change. Changing the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore to a National Park and Preserve deserves a deliberate, thoughtful,

transparent, in-depth, and inclusive public process so all voices can be heard and their questions answered; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of La Pointe Board of Supervisors assembled, this 10th day of September 2024, does hereby oppose H. R. 9111 which would redesignate the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore as the Apostle Islands National Park and Preserve, and for other purposes; and,


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Representative Tiffany, as chair of the US House of Representatives Subcommittee on Federal Lands, is hereby asked to work with the House and Senate Appropriations committees to address the deferred maintenance backlog before such time as the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore is considered for National Park designation; and,

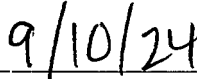
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be sent to our elected federal officials.

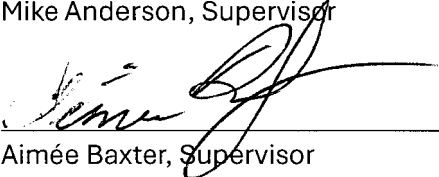
Adopted by the Town of La Pointe Board of Supervisors this 10th day of September, 2024.



Glenn Carlson, Chair

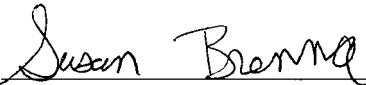

Clerk Attest


Mike Anderson, Supervisor


Date Passed


Aimée Baxter, Supervisor

  
Date Posted/ Published


Sue Brenna, Supervisor


Samantha Dobson, Supervisor