We the undersigned support a stable and vital Lake Michigan shoreline in Indiana.

In order to sustain this critical asset to our economy and quality of life, we support a federal study be conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in order to develop long-term solutions that will address severe shoreline erosion occurring on Indiana's shoreline.

This required feasibility study must have a local match. We respectfully request that the State of Indiana provide funds to complete the study.

While long-term solutions are developed through the study, we recognize the need to pursue short-term sand nourishment for the most affected sites.

We support funds in the amount of \$1,000,000 from the State of Indiana be placed in the state's Sand Nourishment Fund in the fiscal year 2020-21 budget. With this appropriation, the state can complete the local match for the study and support short-term beach nourishment.

Shoreline protection has been a topic of discussion in Northwest Indiana for some time, as this study has been authorized but not funded for more than 10 years. Federal funds for the study are only available when the local match funds are secured.

With the State of Indiana commitment, the local match will be met and the study may advance to identify solutions for preserving tourism and recreation, quality of life for residents and visitors, and the natural dunes and shoreline of Lake Michigan.

