FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News from Save Our Shoreline

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SOS CRITICAL OF SENATE REPUBLICANS' VOTE TO EXPAND MDEQ CONTROL OVER WETLANDS

BAY CITY, Michigan – September 24, 2009

Save Our Shoreline is criticizing a vote of the Michigan Senate earlier today approving a bill that would drastically increase MDEQ control over wetlands, including beaches. Among other things, Senate Bill 785 would adopt the federal definition of "wetland," currently limited to "waters of the United States," and apply it to the entire state.

"If this bill becomes law, we expect the MDEQ to redouble its efforts to turn our beaches into wetlands like they've done at the Bay City State Recreation Area," said Ernie Krygier, SOS President. "Once again, we see elected officials sacrificing our beaches in order to benefit special interests. We implore the House and the Governor to do the right thing, and reject this bill," he said.

The bill passed by a straight party line vote, with Republicans voting for, and Democrats voting against. Those rejecting the bill included Senator Jim Barcia. "Senator Barcia showed great leadership in standing up for shoreline owners on this bill," said Krygier.

Founded in 2001, Save Our Shoreline is a nonprofit membership basis corporation of approximately 3,000 households committed to the preservation of beaches and waterfront areas, and to the protection of riparian rights, including the right to maintain beaches and waterfront areas. Those interested in Save Our Shoreline can find more information at <<u>http://</u>www.saveourshoreline.org/ or by calling (989) 667-2910. For more information about this press release, contact Ernie Krygier at (989) 793-3711.