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The Honorable James Oberstar U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Oberstar:

I and my family have long enjoyed the quiet stillness, beauty, and natural wonder of Voyageurs Park. We are grateful for the 1970s legislation that protected this wilderness, passed after full debate and discussion and compromise on the issues of access and development. We are deeply hurt and distressed by efforts in HR1310 to open this park to more extensive motorized traffic and development. We all need to remember that what has happened to much of our country, our beaches, our coasts, our forests, has destroyed the reason for people going there in the first place.

I am surprised that progressive politicians would yield to the mood of the present to reverse these important decisions of the past to preserve our wilderness. I hope you and they will reconsider the longterm consequences.

Sincerely Yours,

Henry Blackburn, MD

pc: President Bill Clinton Governor Arne Carlson

+ other reps