

From The Desk Of
Steve Mariucci

September 15, 2020

The Honorable Steve Marino, Chair
House Commerce and Tourism Committee
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Chairman Marino and members of the Committee:

As someone who has had the privilege of growing up in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and as a head football coach in both college and the NFL, I understand what a profound impact high-level athletics and recreational opportunities can have for an individual and a community.

Having been born in Iron Mountain, Michigan, it was the opportunities that community and leaders had provided in the past that gave me an outlet and a passion for sports and healthy recreation. Through much hard work, these opportunities eventually led me down a very rewarding career path.

I see the opportunities that exist for sports and recreational events and tourism throughout northern Michigan via the Great Lakes Sports Commission. That is why I urge you to support and pass House Bill 6185 sponsored by Representative Cambensy.

I believe that by providing a financial vehicle for small communities throughout northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula to build and rehabilitate high-caliber sports and recreation venues across the region will have a profound impact on not only the economies of those communities, but on the opportunities that kids in those communities have to get outside, play sports, and engage in healthy recreation, just like I did many years ago.

My hometown, Iron Mountain, and many others like it, are in desperate need of economic opportunities. High-level athletics and recreation economic development is a natural fit for the region's natural outdoor and seasonal features – including world class ski jumping, Nordic skiing, biking, and ice sports.

Please take a moment to consider the leadership opportunity before you to give kids and communities around our state, and to showcase Michigan as a premier world-class destination for sports and recreation.

Thank you for your time, and I urge you to support House Bill 6185.

Sincerely,

Steve Mariucci
NFL Network Analyst