

Below is an example letter for your use to alert congress of concerns regarding SB 429-431 legislation. A three bill package – Senate bills 429, 430, and 431 – sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Jim Ananich, D-Flint, would shift authority for regulating gravel mining operations from local officials to the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE).

Please note in order for any letter to be counted as legitimate or serious, the first two sentences MUST BE UNIQUE. Most of the time a congress person never sees any letters. An aid typically tallies the “yes or no support” and provides very little information to the congress person. For this reason, letters should be unique, short and to the point. Please send your letter to the individuals listed below.

Senator Bizon
senjbizon@senate.michigan.gov

Jerry Neyer District 92 Mount Pleasant area
2646JerryNeyer@house.mi.gov

Julie Calley
JulieCalley@house.mi.gov

Joseph Aragona District 60 Mount Clemens area
1785JosephAragona@house.mi.gov

Rachelle Smit District 43 Barry Township
RachelleSmit@house.mi.gov

Pauline Wendzel District 39 Berrien County
1799 PaulineWendzel@house.mi.gov

Sample Letter to type into email(s)

Date:

Dear Senator (Name)

Examples for the first paragraph but use your own unique wording. Two sentences is enough.

Example 1:

Because of the devastation I have seen at local gravel pits, I ask that you please vote "NO" on SB 429-431. Local governments must have voice in those zoning decisions that influence sand & gravel mining sites.

Example 2

I urge you to vote “NO” on SB 429-431. I believe without local control; aggregate mining operations could cause irreparable damage to Michigans beautiful natural environments.

Examples for second paragraph (does not have to be your own unique wording)

Example 1

If local control is not encouraged and implemented throughout Michigan, the sand & gravel companies occasionally damage our important wetlands, impact our air quality, which may lead to lung cancers & silicosis in future years, pollute our lake & ground waters, damage our local roads with heavy trucks, produce excessive noise pollution, lower property values & endanger our children as they travel to & from nearby schools.

Example 2

Michigan needs smart mining policies that honor local control. In this way, when new mines are necessary, local mining policies would have the oversight needed to ensure environmental protections that minimize damage, lower noise pollution, and protect property values, roads, towns, families, and their children.

Respectfully,

(List your name

address and

email address

Phone number is optional)

If you'd like an electronic version of this, please email deltoncrookedlakeassociation@gmail.com