



Dearborn County Commissioners

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Jim Thatcher, District 1

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December 17, 2021

Office of U.S. Representative Greg Pence, Indiana 6th District
Attn: Chief of Staff Hillary Lassiter and Legislative Assistant Kyl Robertson
211 Cannon HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: Support for H.R. 4878 – The American Discovery Trail

Dear Representative Pence,

The Dearborn County Commissioners take great pride in their county and are proud of the collaboration between surrounding communities that support our Dearborn County Trail. This trail helps to link the three largest cities in Dearborn County: Aurora, Lawrenceburg, and Greendale. The trail also provides spectacular views along the banks of the Ohio River, and is accessible to the beautiful downtown areas of these wonderful southeastern cities.

Dearborn County also works with neighboring states (Ohio and Kentucky) through Tri-State Trails. The mission of this organization—which is aligned with one of the Dearborn County Commissioners' priorities—is to connect people and places with a regional trail and bikeway network that enhances vibrancy and equity in communities.

With all of the aforementioned in mind, the Commissioners respectfully request Representative Pence's support for House Resolution 4878, the National Discovery Trails Act. Indiana is one of three states in the United States to have two branches of the coast-to-coast American Discovery Trail, which includes more than 6,800 miles of trails, streets and roads connecting and stretching from Cape Henlopen State Park, Delaware to Pt. Reyes National Seashore, California. The American Discovery Trail stretches though southern Indiana and would cross Dearborn County near our Dearborn County Trail.

The Dearborn County Commissioners fully support this bi-partisan legislation as it will aid in elevating the importance and visibility of the American Discovery Trail by giving it Congressional recognition as a federal category of "Discovery Trail" within the National Trails System. This designation would authorize signage of the American Discovery Trail across the nation, including Dearborn County.

Again, we ask for your support for H.R. 4878 and hope that you would even consider co-sponsoring this legislation to assist your constituents in southeastern Indiana.

Respectfully,
The Dearborn County Board of Commissioners

Jim Thatcher, President

Art Little, Commissioner

Rick Probst, Commissioner