I am/We are writing in support of the nomination to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for a national marine sanctuary in Wisconsin's Lake Michigan waters. As envisioned, the sanctuary would protect and interpret maritime heritage resources, including 33 known shipwrecks, in an 875-square-mile area off the coast of Ozaukee, Sheboygan and Manitowoc counties.

A national marine sanctuary would build on the accomplishments by the State of Wisconsin in protecting Great Lakes shipwrecks and educating the public about Wisconsin's nationally significant shipwrecks. A sanctuary would provide important benefits for our City of Port Washington and surrounding communities, including increased tourism and a wide variety of educational programs to share the history of Wisconsin's shipwrecks and maritime heritage with the public. It would be of great benefit to the State, local communities, and user groups to be part of the NOAA National Marine Sanctuary System.

I support the submission of a nomination package to NOAA to add this Wisconsin site to its inventory of potential national marine sanctuaries.

[As appropriate, include a statement about particular organization – and if the organization has passed a resolution]