

**Statement of Congressman Dan Benishek (MI-01)
Before the
Committee on Natural Resources
*Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public
Lands***

January 24, 2012

Mr. Chairman, thank you for holding this hearing and for your leadership on this Committee. My bill is a simple and straightforward technical correction to a land patent granted to the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society, located in my district.

Located in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan along Lake Superior, the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum presents a firsthand look at the history of those who bravely navigated the Great Lakes, attracting roughly 60,000 visitors a year.

My bill ensures that visitors will continue to learn this maritime history by modifying the patent to reflect a 2002 consensus agreement that allows for the development and expansion of new facilities.

Senator Levin successfully passed this legislation in the Senate without objection.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you again for holding this hearing and ask for your support in reporting this bill favorably to the floor.