



Indiana Office of Tourism Development
One North Capitol, Suite 100
Indianapolis, IN 46204

VisitIndiana.com

16 October, 2006

Brian Morgenstern
Clerk of Subcommittee on National Parks
US House of Representatives Committee on Resources
1328 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20512

Dear Mr. Morgenstern,

The Indiana Office of Tourism Development (IOTD) fully supports the extension of the Lewis and Clark heritage trail to include the Eastern Legacy. The important role southern Indiana and other points east of the Missouri River played in the Lewis and Clark expedition should not be overlooked. For the sake of history and economic development, IOTD supports this measure.

The significance of the Eastern Legacy is undeniable. Lewis and Clark met at the Falls of the Ohio. The first member of the Corps of Discovery hailed from Clarksville, Indiana. Much of the preparation and planning took place in the area. It is important that we honor and showcase this history.

The extension of the trail will raise awareness of the Eastern Legacy and encourage tourist activity. Tourism related to Lewis and Clark can have a positive impact on the local economies in southern Indiana and other places. The trail will add to Indiana's diverse and successful tourism industry which attracts more than 59 million people each year.

On behalf of IOTD, I urge the passage of HR 5053. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Amy Vaughan, Director
Indiana Office of Tourism Development