

#09-01

WHEREAS, the Lake County Tourism Bureau is again attempting to introduce legislation to either have a regional tourism bureau or to merge the Lake County Tourism Bureau with the Porter County Convention, Recreation and Visitors Commission.

WHEREAS, the Porter County Convention, Recreation and Visitors Commission is a county agency that is funded by a motel and hotel tax on such establishments in Porter County.

WHEREAS, the goals of the Porter County Convention, Recreation and Visitors Commission are not the same as those of the Lake County Tourism Bureau. Both counties are unique in what they offer the tourists.

WHEREAS, Porter County has many natural resources such as the Indiana Dunes State Park and the Dunes National Lakeshore. In addition, they have other areas in the county that draw visitors.

WHEREAS, if these convention bureaus were merged simply by the fact that Lake County has such a large base it would soon engulf the Porter County Convention Recreation and Visitors Commission which would then lose its voice in the future.

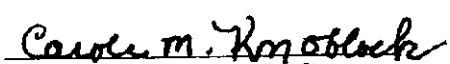
WHEREAS, the Porter County Commissioners are going on record against this not only for the reasons set forth above but further because there would soon be an effort to pass a regional tax which not only might increase the amount citizens in Porter County are paying but would also go into an agency where they had less say.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Porter County Board of Commissioners go on record as opposing any sort of consolidation of these bureaus. Further that the Porter County Board of Commissioners requests that the legislators from Porter County take no action to promote the regionalization of this service.

All of which is resolved this 17th day of February, 2009.


Robert P. Harper, President


John A. Evans, Vice-President


Carole M. Knoblock, Secretary