

# Region 1 – 2015 Position Paper

## THANK YOU:

- Attendance at the UP200
- Attention paid to the UP by state staff, elected officials and resources
- Timely passage of state budget annually
- Pure Michigan funding
- State Police tower approval
- Passing Pinecrest legislation for Menominee, Dickinson, and Delta Counties
- MEDC funding and support
- Approval of Superior Trade Zone
- Personal Property Tax Reform
- U.P. Energy midterm solution
- Regional Prosperity Initiative
- Weight Reduction Limits
- State Forest Timber Management
- MDOT Funding for Verso
- MEDC Step Grant for Bay College
- Support for Bassmasters (Delta Co)

## SHORT TERM ISSUES :

- Big Box Dark Store
- Transportation funding
- Expansion of cell coverage and broadband
- Country Road 595- EPA Lawsuit
- Continued support and funding for statewide trail systems
- Talent needs particularly in the skilled trades
- Higher Education gap funding from roads
- Defined permitting process for Aquaculture
- Escanaba River Bridge (Delta)
- Equitable K-12 Per Pupil Funding
- Early Childhood Education
- Liquor License Fees
- HICA Increase
- Rural Hospital Funding
- Community Mental Health Funding
- White Nose Bat Syndrome
- Mine scarred properties protection funding

## LONG TERM :

- Need for long term energy solutions in the Upper Peninsula
- Workforce preparation to fill gaps and create pipeline
- Increase funding and support for P-20
- Need for infrastructure upgrades and sustainable funding (ie. roads, transmission, broadband, cellular coverage)
- Impact of Revenue Sharing decreases
- Removal of cumbersome reporting requirements and unfunded mandates for education and local government
- Regional jail systems to address staffing and facilities issue
- Non-emergency transportation options for elderly and mental health patients
- Mine Retirement
- Sustainable Forestry
- Graymont Mineral Exchange