

**Statement of Support from the Field Museum of Natural History:**

“The Field Museum is very grateful to Sen. Todd Young (IN) and Rep. Robin Kelly (IL-2) for their leadership in introducing bills to create the Calumet National Heritage Area, as well as to their colleagues from our region who have signed on as original cosponsors, Senators Dick Durbin (IL), Tammy Duckworth (IL), and Jim Banks (IN), and Reps. Danny Davis (IL-7), Sean Casten (IL-6), Jonathan Jackson (IL-1), Frank Mrvan (IN-1) and Rudy Yakym (IN-2). Since the Field's founding more than 130 years ago as a hub for collections, research, conservation action, and education, the Calumet region has been significant to the Museum. Today, as we work to fulfill our mission to connect all of us to the natural world and the human story, that significance remains.

“We were especially pleased to highlight this connection through Calumet Voices/National Stories, the recent traveling exhibit the Field curated with fifteen bi-state regional partners. The exhibit demonstrated how collections in natural and cultural history can show the intersections between nature, industry, and community, all key themes of the National Heritage Area. The Museum's support of and participation in conservation efforts in the region through its Keller Science Action Center is grounded in that intersection. We maintain active roles in the region: we continue to support local collections-based institutions; we partner with other organizations on landscape-scale conservation of ecological and cultural resources; and we support the region's next generation's active engagement in its wonderfully diverse natural assets. The Field Museum supports the creation of the National Heritage Area and celebrates the people, places, and landscapes of the Calumet region.”

**Statement of Support from the Calumet Heritage Partnership:**

“The introduction of this bill is the culmination of years of tireless efforts by the Calumet Heritage Partnership, regional legislators, local communities, and various stakeholders committed to preserving the unique legacy of the Calumet region,” said CHP Board Chair, Gary R. Johnson. He continued, “The designation of the Calumet National Heritage Area will recognize the historical significance of the area and ensure that future generations can appreciate and learn from its diverse heritage.” –