

CITATION OF COMMENDATION



KNOW YOU BY THESE PRESENTS:

WHEREAS, Paul Oscar Husting was born in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin on April 25, 1866; and

WHEREAS, Paul served as a public figure not only in Wisconsin, but throughout the United States whose life had a major impact on many state natural resources issues; and

WHEREAS, Paul had the courage to test the right of access to public waterways by entering a portion of the Rock River in the Horicon Marsh, which was claimed as a private hunting preserve by a local shooting club, provoking his arrest and initiating a case that went to the Wisconsin Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, Paul's actions were vindicated by the Supreme Court, establishing two major precedents - that navigable waters are public waters, free for commerce, travel, recreation, hunting, and fishing, and that ordinary high-water marks determined navigability, which are standards that continue to define state DNR permit jurisdiction and public waters protection for many activities today; and

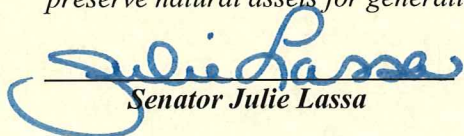
WHEREAS, Paul was an attorney educated at the University of Wisconsin-Madison law school, served for eight years in the Wisconsin State Senate and is credited with drafting and passing laws aimed at conservation of natural resources; and

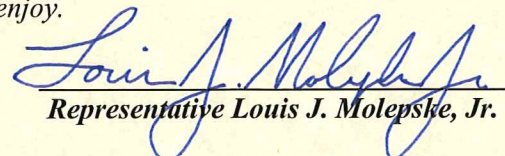
WHEREAS, in the Senate, Paul chaired a legislative committee investigating water power, forestry, and drainage, and was an effective advocate for the 1911 and 1913 Water Powers Legislation; and

WHEREAS, Paul was elected to the United States Senate in 1914 where he served until 1917 when he passed away; and

WHEREAS, Paul had a spirit of independent inquiry, a dogged persistence, powerful oratorical skills, a sense of his family's place in Wisconsin history and was a champion of public causes over private monied interests, and is now a 2008 inductee into the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame; now

*THEREFORE, Senator Julie Lassa and Representative Louis J. Molepske, Jr. on behalf of the State of Wisconsin hereby honor PAUL O. HUSTING for his tireless advocacy of conservation, which has helped preserve natural assets for generations of Wisconsin residents to enjoy.*

  
Senator Julie Lassa

  
Representative Louis J. Molepske, Jr.

*Saturday, April 19, 2008*