

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 1, 2018

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Chairman
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
2007 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
2007 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum,

As you begin drafting the Fiscal Year 2019 Interior and Environment Appropriations bill, we respectfully request that the Subcommittee appropriate \$5 million for Fiscal Year 2019 for the National Park Foundation as authorized in Public Law 114-289 Section 402, the National Park Service Centennial Act.

Our national parks are the crown jewels of our public lands, with more than 330 million visits in 2016 generating more than \$18 billion in spending for the economy. They tell important and sometimes difficult stories about American history and serve as places for education, outdoor activities, research, volunteerism, and appreciating the great outdoors.

One of the primary goals of the National Park Service Centennial Act, which passed at the end of 2016, is to create a more holistic funding model for our parks by capitalizing on the increased enthusiasm we have seen for philanthropy for our national parks.

The National Park Foundation is the Congressionally-chartered philanthropic partner of the National Park Service and is at the forefront of a record fundraising effort throughout the parks community. The appropriation authorized in the National Park Service Centennial Act will go to improve the visitor experience throughout the system.

This appropriation is required to be matched at least \$1:\$1 with philanthropic dollars and the National Park Foundation is confident of its ability to leverage these federal dollars to an even greater degree. Appropriating \$5 million for the National Park Foundation will provide a great return on investment for taxpayers while providing important support for our parks.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this funding.

Sincerely,



Scott Tipton
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



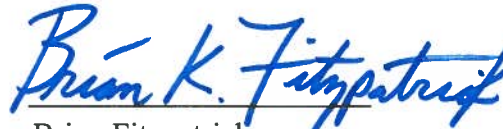
Carlos Curbelo
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Tom McClintock
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Glenn 'GT' Thompson
Member of Congress



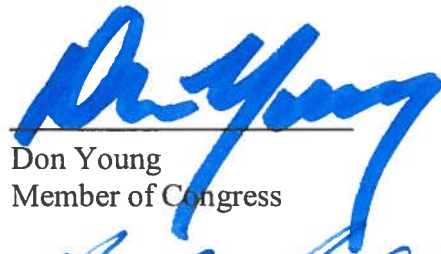
Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



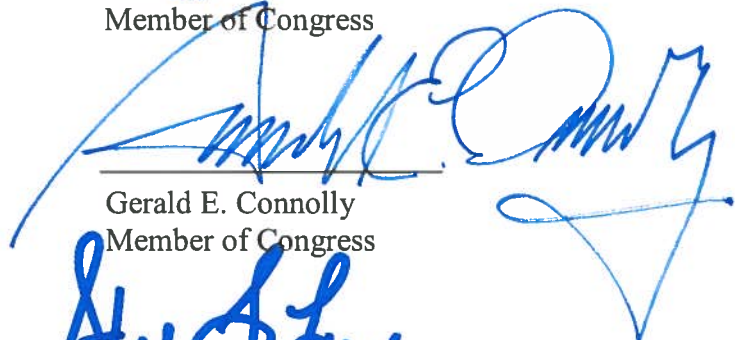
Doug LaMalfa
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Ryan A. Costello
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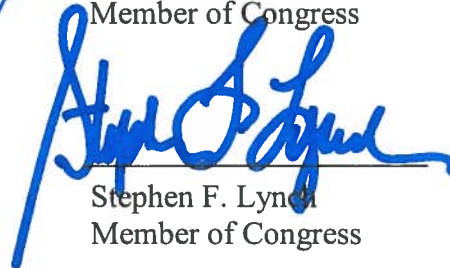
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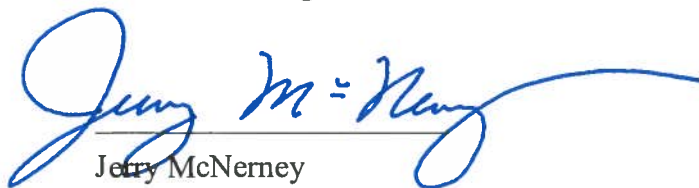
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