

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 20, 2020

Honorable David L. Bernhardt  
Secretary  
United States Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Bernhardt:

We are pleased to hear that the President has decided to withdraw Mr. William Perry Pendley's nomination to be director of the Bureau of Land Management. We have grave concerns, however, with reports that Mr. Pendley will continue to lead the bureau through his current position as deputy director, exercising the authority of the director. For the same reasons that Mr. Pendley is unfit to be confirmed as director, he is unfit to exercise the authority of the director without being confirmed, and we ask that you remove Mr. Pendley from this position. We also call on the President to nominate a qualified director for consideration through the regular confirmation process.

Mr. Pendley's long public record of advocacy for selling off public lands and reducing access to them, attempts to undermine tribes and tribal sovereignty, and denial of climate change make his beliefs and actions antithetical to either role. His role in the mismanagement of public assets during his first tenure at the Department of the Interior raises serious questions about his fitness for any federal position. The Bureau of Land Management requires a qualified leader who supports public lands and the bureau's critical role in administering them for the American people.

We urge you to remove Mr. Pendley from his position leading the Bureau of Land Management.

Sincerely,



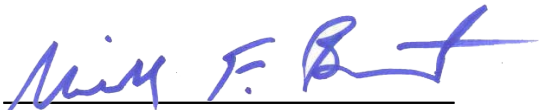
Martin Heinrich  
United States Senator



Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator




Joe Manchin  
United States Senator




Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator

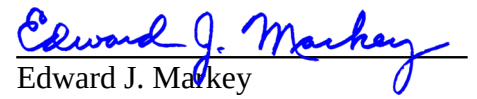


Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator


  
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Jack Reed  
United States Senator


  
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Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator

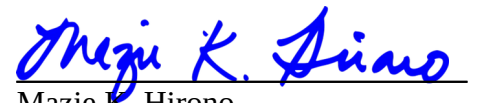
  
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Chris Murphy  
United States Senator

  
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Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator

  
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Patrick Leahy  
United States Senator


  
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Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator


  
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Tom Udall  
United States Senator


  
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Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senator


  
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Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator


  
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Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator


  
Jacky Rosen  
United States Senator

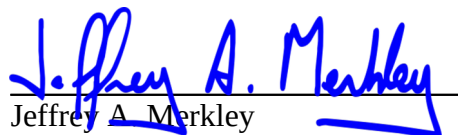
  
Ron Wyden  
United States Senator

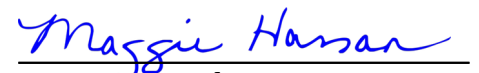
  
Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator

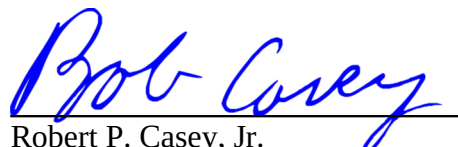
  
Debbie A. Stabenow  
United States Senator


  
Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator


  
Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator

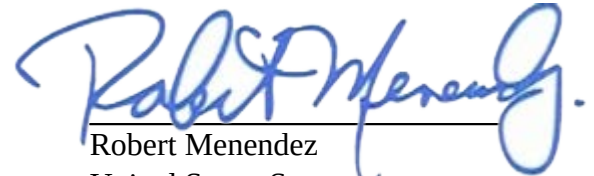
  
Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator


  
Margaret Wood Hassan  
United States Senator

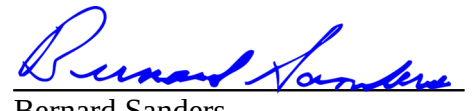
  
Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator

  
Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator

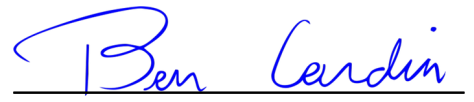
  
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Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator


  
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Robert Menendez  
United States Senator

  
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Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator


  
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Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator


  
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Kamala D. Harris  
United States Senator

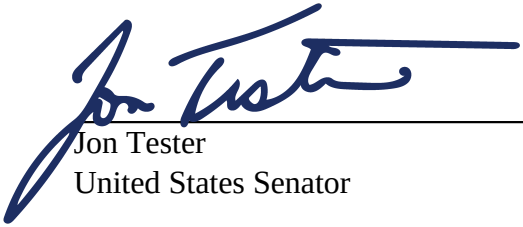
  
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Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator

  
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Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator

  
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Tim Kaine  
United States Senator

  
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Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator

  
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Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



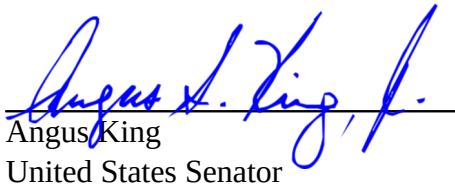
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Jon Tester  
United States Senator



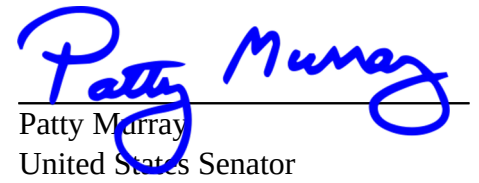
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Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator



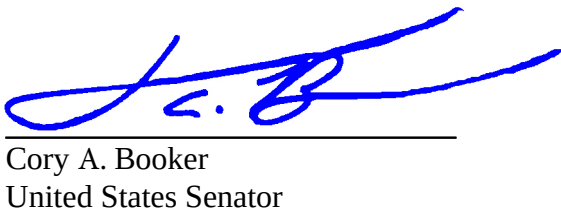
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Angus King  
United States Senator



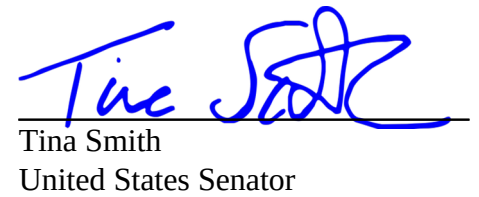
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Patty Murray  
United States Senator



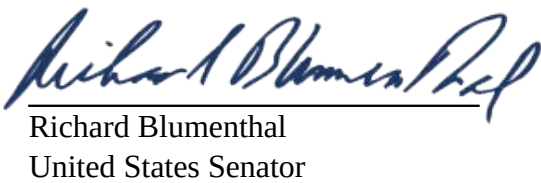
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Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator



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Tina Smith  
United States Senator



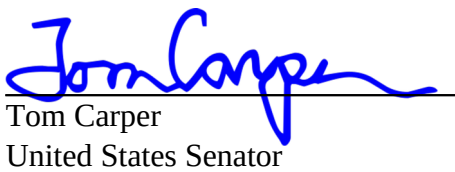
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Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



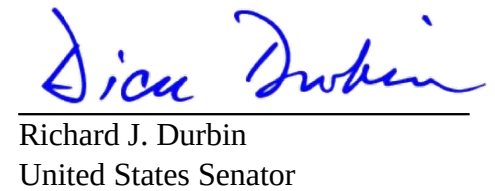
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Brian Schatz  
United States Senator



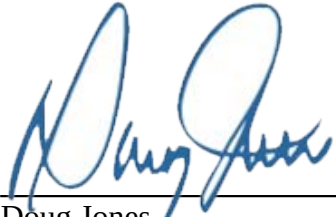
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Tom Carper  
United States Senator



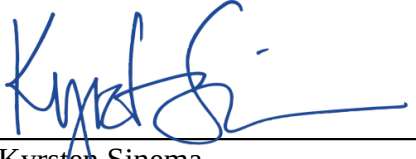
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Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



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Doug Jones  
United States Senator



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Kyrsten Sinema  
United States Senator