

\* American Sportfishing Association \* Association of Oregon Counties \* Backcountry Hunters & Anglers \* Evangelical Environmental Network \* Geothermal Energy Association \* Montana Association of Counties \* National Association of Counties \* Natural Resources Defense Council \* National Wildlife Federation \* Ormat Technologies Inc. \* Outdoor Industry Association \* Sonoran Institute \*  
The Wilderness Society \* Trout Unlimited \*

December 7, 2017

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
United States Senate  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
United States Senate  
511 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Cantwell:

On behalf of our undersigned organizations, we write to express our support for S.282 the Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act (PLREDA). We are pleased to see this legislation has been reintroduced and look forward to seeing this bill move forward in the 115th Congress to ensure continued development of renewable energy on public lands.

As entities representing local government, hunters and anglers, conservationists, clean energy advocates and the outdoor recreation community we recognize the potential of renewable energy to strengthen our economy and communities.

S.282 strikes the important balance between the development of new clean energy infrastructure and the conservation of our natural resources. By identifying priority areas for wind, solar and geothermal development, S.282 encourages smart siting and efficient permitting of projects in places with high potential for energy and low impact on wildlife and habitat. Planning ahead for development in priority areas offers developers certainty for their project timelines, and saves both time and money.

Importantly, PLREDA ensures communities benefit from renewable energy development by distributing a portion of the revenues generated to states and counties, and a portion to improve access to public land and for conservation efforts. In addition, the revenue sharing model laid out in S.282 will help permitting agencies advance renewable energy by securing the necessary resources to efficiently manage, review and advance applications for new projects.

We believe this bill is an important step in advancing renewable energy while strengthening communities and conservation efforts. We appreciate your continued leadership and support, and urge you to advance this legislation at the earliest possible opportunity in the 115th Congress.

Sincerely,

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