



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU
Governor

January 13, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
United States House of Representatives

Dear Madam Speaker, Leader McCarthy,

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), specifically the so-called "state-side" matching grant program, has played an important role in protecting New Hampshire's outdoors since its inception. From creating recreation areas in cities and towns across the state, to planning the long-term preservation and access to the iconic Mount Washington Summit the Land and Water Conservation Fund has played a crucial role in preserving a quintessential part of the Granite State, our outdoor recreation resources and heritage.

Congress has a mixed history when it comes to funding the LWCF, all too often pulling money out of the fund for other purposes. It also created further uncertainty over the future of the program by not permanently authorizing it until last spring, over 50 years following its inception, as part of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act. While permanent authorization was a monumental step in the right direction, it is time for the conservation of our lands, preservation of outdoor recreation resources, and heritage to be fully removed from the political theatrics of the continuous Washington appropriation fight.

The time is now to pass HR 3195 the Land and Water Conservation Fund Permanent Funding Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chitka T. Sununu".

Christopher T. Sununu
Governor