

OUTDOOR ALLIANCE

August 6, 2020

Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto
516 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Rep. Christopher Smith
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Sen. Steve Daines
320 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Rep. Adam Smith
2264 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Outdoor recreation community support for S. 1263/ H.R. 2435, the Accelerating Veterans Recovery Outdoors Act

Dear Sens. Cortez Masto and Daines and Reps. Smith and Smith:

On behalf of the human powered outdoor recreation community, we write to express our support for S. 1263/ H.R. 2435, the Accelerating Veterans Recovery Outdoors Act.

Outdoor Alliance is a coalition of ten member-based organizations representing the human powered outdoor recreation community. The coalition includes Access Fund, American Canoe Association, American Whitewater, International Mountain Bicycling Association, Winter Wildlands Alliance, The Mountaineers, the American Alpine Club, the Mazamas, Colorado Mountain Club, and Surfrider Foundation and represents the interests of the millions of Americans who climb, paddle, mountain bike, backcountry ski and snowshoe, and enjoy coastal recreation on our nation's public lands, waters, and snowscapes.

As a community comprising individuals innately aware of the benefits of time spent outdoors, we strongly support efforts to identify and remediate barriers that may limit outdoor recreation opportunities for veterans. The personal, spiritual, mental, and physical benefits of time spent enjoying adventures in the outdoors are tremendous, and we commend the bill's sponsors for directing a comprehensive evaluation of the ways these benefits can be more purposefully assured for veterans.



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Best regards,



Louis Geltman
Policy Director
Outdoor Alliance

cc: Adam Cramer, Executive Director, Outdoor Alliance
Chris Winter, Executive Director, Access Fund
Beth Spilman, Interim Executive Director, American Canoe Association
Mark Singleton, Executive Director, American Whitewater
Kent McNeill, CEO, International Mountain Bicycling Association
Todd Walton, Executive Director, Winter Wildlands Alliance
Tom Vogl, Chief Executive Officer, The Mountaineers
Phil Powers, Chief Executive Officer, American Alpine Club
Mitsu Iwasaki, Executive Director, the Mazamas
Keegan Young, Executive Director, Colorado Mountain Club
Chad Nelson, Chief Executive Officer, Surfrider Foundation

