

**Alaska Wilderness League | American Rivers | Animal Wellness Action  
Clean Water Action | Defenders of Wildlife | Earthjustice | Endangered Species Coalition  
Environment America | Environmental Defense Fund | Green Science Policy Institute  
League of Conservation Voters | National Audubon Society  
Natural Resources Defense Council | Oceana | Ocean Conservancy  
Sierra Club | The Wilderness Society**

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Dear Minority Leader Schumer, Vice Chairman Leahy, and Ranking Member Udall,

On behalf of our millions of supporters and members nationally, we thank you for your leadership in keeping FY19 appropriations legislation, including the Interior and Environment Appropriations bill (H.R. 6147), free of new anti-environmental policy riders.

With the end of the fiscal year quickly approaching, your leadership becomes even more critical as the threat from harmful riders shifts to the conference process. As you know, the House funding bills contain many unacceptable riders. We urge you to continue emphasizing to House leadership and conferees that bills carrying these provisions will not pass the Senate.

A [recent Gallup poll](#) revealed that “sixty-two (62) percent of Americans currently say the government is doing too little to protect the environment — the highest in 12 years.” The poll further defines how President Trump’s anti-environmental agenda is contrary to U.S. public opinion. Voters “support more, rather than less, government action to protect the environment.”

The poll results are not surprising because people across our country share a moral obligation to protect our children’s health and our public lands, air, water, oceans, and wildlife for future generations. The federal budget sets the priorities for our government to uphold this commitment — even one harmful policy rider can break this promise.

Our families need Congressional leaders to abandon the poison pill policies that continue to corrupt the appropriations process. We support and thank you for your leadership in standing with these families and passing final funding bills that are free of anti-environmental riders.

Sincerely,

Alaska Wilderness League, Adam Kolton, Executive Director

American Rivers, Wm. Robert Irvin, President and CEO

Animal Wellness Action, Marty Irby, Executive Director

Clean Water Action, Robert Wendelgass, President and CEO

Defenders of Wildlife, Jamie Rappaport Clark, President and CEO

Earthjustice, Trip Van Noppen, President

Endangered Species Coalition, Leda Huta, Executive Director

Environment America, Ed Johnson, President

Environmental Defense Fund, Fred Krupp, President

Green Science Policy Institute, Arlene Blum, Founder and Executive Director

League of Conservation Voters, Gene Karpinski, President

National Audubon Society, David Yarnold, President and CEO

Natural Resources Defense Council, Rhea Suh, President

Oceana, Jacqueline Savitz, Chief Policy Officer, North America

Ocean Conservancy, Janis Searles Jones, CEO

Sierra Club, Michael Brune, Executive Director

The Wilderness Society, Jamie Williams, President