The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker House of Representatives

The Honorable Bruce Westerman
Chairman
House Committee on Natural Resources

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries Minority Leader House of Representatives

The Honorable Jared Huffman Ranking Member House Committee on Natural Resources

RE: Amodei Amendment 013 to H.Con.Res.14 - Public Lands Sell Off Amendment

Dear Members of the House of Representatives,

On behalf of our members, we, the undersigned organizations, ask you to strip the Amodei Amendment 013 from the House Interior Reconciliation Bill.

The House Natural Resources Committee has now added selling off public lands that belong to all Americans to what is already a sprawling attempt to fast-track resource development for a variety of industries including oil, gas, coal, hardrock mining, and timber.

At the 11th hour, and at the end of a day-long hearing, Rep. Mark Amodei (R-NV-2) and Rep. Celeste Maloy (R-UT-2) introduced an amendment, without including the maps the amendment references, that would result in the sell-off of over 11,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) managed public land in Utah and 500,000 acres in Nevada. This amendment was introduced during a House Natural Resources Committee hearing on May 6th, 2025, without an opportunity for review by other members of Congress or the public. The Committee voted to allow this amendment and ultimately in favor of the entire bill.

Contrary to statements by Rep. Maloy, the language of the amendment includes **no** requirements for public use and no limitations on how the lands can be used once sold — meaning they may be developed for golf courses, luxury resorts, strip malls, private vacation homes, or simply flipped for sale again. Nothing is off the table. The public had no opportunity to participate in the process of identifying these parcels, let alone time to understand the long-term effect of selling off these public lands. Public lands should remain in public hands.

Parcels listed for sale in the amendment are within the following areas:

- Red Mountain Wilderness
- Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Area
- Santa Clara River Reserve
- Santa Clara/Gunlock Area of Critical Environmental Concern
- Red Bluff Area of Critical Environmental Concern

The amendment also includes several parcels adjacent to Zion National Park, one of the most visited National Parks in the nation. The tracts proposed for sale include a 300 acre mesa outside the small town of Rockville, as well as tracts at popular trailheads.

This amendment is only the start of the push by the current administration, extractive industry, and private developers to sell off public lands across the nation. But such moves are deeply unpopular. Polling has repeatedly shown that the public—especially westerners—strongly believe in keeping public lands in public hands and, across partisan lines, reject any efforts that would lead to the sale of these shared and cherished lands. The House must reject this misguided and wildly unpopular notion.

It is imperative that the budget reconciliation process is not used to sell off public lands.

Sincerely,

Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance

350.org

Accountable.US/Accountable.NOW

American Bird Conservancy

American Hiking Society

American Packrafting Association

Amigos De Los Rios

Appalachian Mountain Club

CactusToCloud Institute

Californians for Western Wilderness

CalWild

Center for Biological Diversity

Climate Justice Alliance

Coastal Corridor Alliance

Conservation Colorado

Conservation Lands Foundation

Conservation Northwest

Defenders of Wildlife

Earthjustice Action

EcoFlight

Endangered Species Coalition

Environmental Law & Policy Center

Environmental Protection Information Center

Environmental Center of San Diego

Forests Forever

Friends of the Amargosa Basin

Friends of the Inyo

Friends of the Lost Coast

Glen Canyon Institute

Grand Canyon Trust

Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association

GreenLatinos

Greenpeace USA

Hills For Everyone

Illinois Environmental Council

League of Conservation Voters

Minnesota Division Izaak Walton League of America

Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center

Natural Resources Defense Council

Nature for All

NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice

New Mexico Wild

Next 100 Coalition

Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness

Ocean Conservation Research

Oregon Natural Desert Association

Pelecanus

Resource Renewal Institute

Robert Redford Conservancy at Pitzer College

Save Our Canyons

Sheep Mountain Alliance

Sierra Business Council

Sierra Club

Silvix Resources

Soda Mountain Wilderness Council

Southern Environmental Law Center

Standing Trees

Taunton River Watershed Alliance

The Ocean Project

The SummerTree Institute

The Wilderness Society

Tuleyome

Virginia Wilderness Committee

Western Watersheds Project

Wild Hope

Wild Montana

WildEarth Guardians

Wilderness Watch

Wilderness Workshop

WWA

Wyoming Wilderness Association

Wyoming Wildlife Advocates