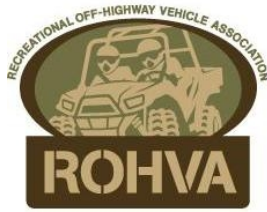




**MOTORCYCLE
INDUSTRY
COUNCIL®**



November 2, 2015

The Honorable Paul Gosar
United States House of Representatives
504 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Gosar:

On behalf of the Motorcycle Industry Council (MIC), Specialty Vehicle Institute of America (SVIA) and the Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association (ROHVA) we write in support of your draft legislation titled *Protecting Local Communities from Executive Overreach Act*.

MIC, SVIA and ROHVA are the trade associations that represent the powersports industry including the manufacturers of on and off-highway motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles and recreational off-highway vehicles - also known as side-by-sides. Our member companies, and the customers who purchase their products, have a vested interest in the management of public lands.

As it stands, the Antiquities Act of 1906 grants the President the authority to designate "...historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments." The Antiquities Act also holds that national monuments should be "...confined to the smallest area compatible with proper care and management of the objects to be protected..." yet Presidents have, in our view, inappropriately designated enormous swaths of public lands as national monuments. Your draft bill would permanently address this issue by limiting the size of future Monument designations to 5,000 acres or less.

It is no secret that those most affected by land use decisions are those who live, recreate and make their livelihoods on or near the public lands in question. Some organizations are calling on the President to forsake ongoing administrative or legislative processes at the local level in favor of unilateral action that would satisfy a narrow group of stakeholders. Once enacted, your legislation would ensure that this sort of unilateral action is no longer possible by requiring local consultation and concurrence before declarations can be finalized, and by prohibiting designations in counties where there is significant local opposition.

Too often when widespread local and Congressional support to designate public lands as wilderness cannot be established, wilderness proponents turn to a strategy of calling for the President to achieve similar goals by administratively designating the area as a National Monument. It is time for this practice to stop. As a result we wholeheartedly

support the *Protecting Local Communities from Executive Overreach Act* and thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Duane Taylor
Director, Federal Affairs
Motorcycle Industry Council



Kathy Van Kleeck
Senior Vice President, Government Relations
Specialty Vehicle Institute of America



Tom Yager
Vice President
Recreational Off-Highway Vehicle Association