United States Senate WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 19, 2018

The Honorable Sonny Perdue, Secretary United States Department of Agriculture 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Perdue:

We strongly urge prompt reauthorization of the national Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) charter under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act.

Reauthorizing the national charter will enable 114 RACs across the country in primarily rural areas to engage with local citizens in the responsible distribution of approximately \$40 million in title II SRS funds, directly supporting jobs and important natural resources work on America's national forests.

We are concerned that an ongoing delay in reauthorization could jeopardize the organization of RACs and consequently hinder distribution of these funds to local, rural communities. Thank you for the consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Ron Wyden

United States Senator

Jeffrey A. Merkley United States Senator James E. Risch

United States Senator

United States Senator