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Alaska Wilderness League applauds bipartisan bills to protect the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

Washington — Today, Representatives Jared Huffman (D-CA) and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), and Senator Ed Markey (D-MA) introduced the Arctic Refuge Protection Act that would restore protections to the Arctic Refuge coastal plain and repeal the leasing mandate contained in the 2017 Tax Act.

Statement by Adam Kolton, Executive Director, Alaska Wilderness League:

“We applaud Reps. Jared Huffman and Brian Fitzpatrick and Senator Ed Markey for this bipartisan bill to repeal the oil leasing mandate and safeguard the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

“We now know that drilling proponents’ promised bonanza from refuge drilling was a sham, unmasked by a Trump lease sale that generated less than 1% of the revenue contained in the 2017 Tax Act. Passing this measure would not only protect a national treasure but help ensure the food security and subsistence traditions of the Gwich’in and Iñupiat peoples and prevent long-term carbon pollution at a critical juncture for addressing the climate and biodiversity crises.

“We look forward to working with the new Congress to enact this campaign promise and vital part of the Biden climate and conservation agenda.”

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For the full congressional statement, [click here](#).

A copy of the legislation can be found [here](#).

Alaska Wilderness League stands with, serves and supports the many people and organizations that believe in a sustainable future for Alaska. We honor and respect the cultures of Alaska Natives whose way of life remains deeply connected to the state’s land, waters, and wildlife. We believe that Alaska’s long-term economic future and subsistence traditions are inexorably tied to the health and sound stewardship of its natural resources, which support hunting, fishing, tourism and unrivaled outdoor experiences that are central to Alaskans’ quality of life.



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