January 26, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell

Majority Leader United States Senate

U.S. Capitol Building, Room: S-230

Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan

Speaker

United States House of Representatives U.S. Capitol Building, Room: H-232

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer

Minority Leader United States Senate

Hart Senate Office Building, Room: 419

Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi

Minority Leader

United States House of Representatives U.S. Capitol Building, Room: H-204

Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Ryan and Minority Leader Pelosi:

As representatives of state and local governments and public lands stakeholders from across the United States, we encourage Congress to use its legislative authority to review the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Planning 2.0 rule. As partners with the federal government, we continue to encourage the BLM to engage in meaningful collaboration with local stakeholders during the development of policies and guidelines. And despite representations by the BLM to do just that, we remain unconvinced that Planning 2.0 in its final form does much to satisfy the objective of meaningful collaboration and consultation with non-federal governmental entities.

Robust coordination and cooperation between states and local governments and the BLM allows federal decision-makers to be responsive to the concerns of state and local government officials during policy development and sets the stage for more effective and efficient implementation of federal policies by involving multi-jurisdictional resources and expertise. Simply put, gathering meaningful, on the ground, input from the states and localities that will be most impacted by BLM's planning regulations is critical to ensuring a practical federal policy that works at the local level.

For years to come, the proposed Planning 2.0 rule will have a substantial impact on how the BLM engages with state and local government and manages its 245 million acres of public lands and 700 million acres of subsurface minerals. We encourage Congress to act to ensure BLM's Planning 2.0 rule does not go into effect and instruct the agency to work with intergovernmental partners to ensure the policy has benefited from meaningful, on the ground, collaboration with state and local governments.

Sincerely,

Alaska Municipal League

American Sheep Industry Association

Arizona Association of Counties

Arizona County Supervisors Association

Association of Oregon Counties

Eureka County, Nevada

National Association of Conservation Districts

National Association of Counties

National Association of State Departments of

Agriculture

National Cattlemen's Beef Association

Nevada Association of Conservation Districts

Nevada Association of Counties

Oregon Association of Conservation Districts

Public Lands Council

Rural County Representatives of California

Utah Association of Conservation Districts

Utah Association of Counties

Western Interstate Region of NACo

Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts

Wyoming County Commissioners Association

Wyoming Stock Growers Association

Wyoming Wool Growers Association