United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 3, 2021

The Honorable Joe Manchin III

Chairman

Senate Committee on Energy and Natural

Resources

Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Barrasso, M.D.

Ranking Member

Senate Committee on Energy and Natural

Resources

Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Manchin and Ranking Member Barrasso:

We respectfully request that the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources schedule a legislative hearing to consider S. 173, the Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy ("CORE") Act. The bill was introduced on February 2, 2021 and referred to your committee.

The CORE Act was crafted by Coloradans over the last decade to conserve 400,000 acres of public land in Colorado. The bill includes four distinct titles: Continental Divide, San Juan Mountains, Thompson Divide, and the Curecanti National Recreation Area, which reflect local recommendations for the management of public land in each region. The bill proposes new wilderness and special management areas, protects public land important to ranchers and sportsmen, and includes a first-of-its-kind National Historic Landscape designation for Camp Hale to honor Colorado's unique military history. It enjoys the full support of seven affected counties, many cities and towns, local leaders, and a wide range of interests – from mountain bikers to ranchers, and hikers to hunters.

During the 116th Congress, the CORE Act received a hearing in the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, and passed the House twice. Last month, the CORE Act passed the House for a third time and Coloradans are eager for the Senate to consider this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Bennet

United States Senator

John Hickenlooper

United States Senator