

January 15, 2025

The Honorable Mike Lee
Chairman
Senate Energy and Natural Resources
Committee
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Martin Heinrich
Ranking Member
Senate Energy and Natural Resources
Committee
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Lee and Ranking Member Heinrich,

On behalf of the millions of hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, professional wildlife-scientists, and other outdoor enthusiasts that our organizations represent, we are writing to express our strong support for the nomination of Governor Doug Burgum to serve as the next Secretary of the Interior. Governor Burgum has extensive experience in leadership, public service as well as business, and paired with his passion for conservation and the issues of importance to sportsmen and women, we believe he is well positioned to lead the Department of the Interior (DOI).

Most recently during his time as Governor of North Dakota, Governor Burgum demonstrated his strong commitment to conservation by successfully balancing a myriad of issues, including fish, wildlife, and land and water conservation as well as other resource management. Governor Burgum brings a unique sense of pragmatism to managing and addressing the issues of importance within the purview of DOI, such as the management of public lands that are critical to sportsmen and women for access, fish and wildlife conservation, among many others. As a hunter and angler himself, Governor Burgum recognizes and understands the challenges that fish, wildlife, and outdoor enthusiasts are facing in the 21st century.

In addition to his tenure in public service, Governor Burgum also has demonstrated an impressive ability to lead in the private sector. His leadership style in the private sector is well-respected given his commitment to transparency, self-accountability, and innovation. These skillsets and traits positioned Governor Burgum to grow his private sector companies, and we believe these same skillsets will yield positive benefits for DOI, sportsmen and women, and the conservation of our nation's fish, wildlife, and their associated habitats.

In summary, Governor Burgum will bring a thoughtful, collaborative, and measured perspective to the Department of the Interior. His background and experiences in both the private and public sectors will position him to effectively lead DOI.

For these reasons, we urge the Committee to support Governor Burgum's nomination to serve as the next Secretary of the Interior.

Sincerely,

American Catfishing Association
American Sportfishing Association

American Woodcock Society
Archery Trade Association
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Bass Anglers Sportsman Society
Bonefish & Tarpon Trust
Boone and Crockett Club
California Waterfowl Association
Camp Fire Club of America
Center for Sportfishing Policy
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
Dallas Safari Club
Delta Waterfowl
Ducks Unlimited
Houston Safari Club
International Game Fish Association
Major League Fishing
Marine Retailers Association of America
Mule Deer Foundation
National Bobwhite & Grassland Initiative Foundation
National Deer Association
National Professional Anglers Association
National Rifle Association
National Wild Turkey Federation
North American Falconers Association
North American Grouse Partnership
Pheasants Forever
Professional Outfitters and Guides of America
Quail Forever
Ruffed Grouse Society
Safari Club International
Sportsmen's Alliance
The Bass Federation
The Conservation Fund
The Walleye Federation
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Wild Sheep Foundation
Wildlife Forever
Wildlife Management Institute
Wildlife Mississippi