\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_, 2018

The Honorable Rob Bishop

House Committee on Natural Resources

1324 Longworth House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Bishop:

I’m writing to urge you to take swift action to pass H.R. 5244, the Mashpee Wampanoag Reservation Reaffirmation Act. As you know, on September 7, 2018 the Department of the Interior issued a decision that opens the door for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe’s reservation to be taken out of trust and disestablished. This would be the first time since the dark days of the termination era that the United States acts to disestablish an Indian reservation and make a Tribe landless.

H.R. 5244 is a bipartisan bill that reaffirms the status of Mashpee's reservation and that has widespread support from local communities surrounding the reservation and Indian country. Passage of H.R. 5244 in this Congress is crucial to preventing Interior from disestablishing the Tribe's reservation.

I feel strongly that Congress must act to pass H.R. 5244 immediately.

Sincerely,

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Address:

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