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Committee on Natural Resources
Washington, DC 20515

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May 29, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

As you know, on Friday, May 22, 2009 the President signed H.R. 627, which included provisions requiring the Department of the Interior to comply with State law with regard to enforcement and creation of firearm regulations. However, many people are unaware that these changes will not go into effect for another nine months and that the current federal Court injunction against carrying concealed weapons on certain federal lands is still in place. This creates unnecessary confusion as to what may or may not be permitted in National Parks and Wildlife Refuges at this time.

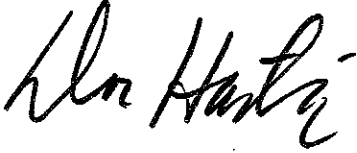
We respectfully request that the Department immediately petition the Court to remove the injunction to alleviate the transition to the new rules. This will protect national park visitors from unnecessary prosecutions or further delays in the full restoration of their Second Amendment rights.

While we were disappointed that the Administration chose not to challenge the injunction in April, we are hopeful that you will now comply with the bipartisan will of Congress by expeditiously moving to clarify the new uniformity of regulations on public lands and ensure that people are not stripped of their Second Amendment rights simply because they might be standing or driving on certain federal land.

The Honorable Ken Salazar
May 29, 2009
Page 2

The Department has a responsibility to clearly communicate this law. As soon as the injunction is lifted, the Department can begin the process of welcoming back to our parks and refuges law-abiding citizens who choose to exercise their Second Amendment rights.

Sincerely,



Doc Hastings
Ranking Republican
Committee on Natural Resources



Rob Bishop
Ranking Republican
Subcommittee on National Parks,
Forests and Public Lands