



Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts

The Mission of the Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts is to promote and support land conservation excellence in Colorado through leadership, advocacy, education and outreach.

Board of Directors

April 10, 2008

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Ken Mirr

The Honorable Wayne Allard

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United States Senator

Secretary

Greg Vallin

521 Dirksen Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

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Dear Senator Allard:

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On behalf of our Board of Directors, our members and supporters of conservation in Colorado, the Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts would like to thank you for your ongoing work to support the renewal of important tax incentives for private land conservation. We and the Land Trust Alliance recently placed an advertisement in *The Fence Post* and *The AG Journal* thanking you for your help on this issue. We have enclosed a copy of these two advertisements that were in the April 5, 2008 and April 4, 2008 issues.

As you know, conservation easements are one of our most important tools to protect working farms and ranches in Colorado. Given your past support and the importance of this work to Colorado, we hope you will be able to help us promote the inclusion of a permanent renewal of the federal tax incentive for conservation easements in the final Farm Bill.

Section 12203 of the Senate version of the farm bill (H.R. 2419) is identical to the language in S. 496 and H.R. 1576, extending the 2006 change in federal law that made donating a conservation easement much more practical for farmers, ranchers and other modest-income landowners.

Your outreach to the conference negotiators and House and Senate leaders on this critical conservation issue would be greatly appreciated.

Your leadership is essential in protecting the way of life for Colorado's hard-working farmers, ranchers and other constituents. I look forward to working with you and your staff on this and other issues affecting conservation in Colorado and thank you again for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Jill N. Ozarski

Executive Director