



October 13, 2021

Dear Senator and Member of Congress:

On behalf of the above organizations, we write to express our support for the Reconciliation in Place Names Act (H.R. 4454/S. 2400) by Congressman Green and Senator Warren and to request that you co-sponsor this important legislation.

Across the United States, there are thousands of places with names that honor Confederate leaders, perpetrators of atrocities against Native Americans, historical figures with repugnant racial views, or that include racial or sexual slurs or are otherwise offensive. Place names such as these perpetuate prejudice, are often disparaging, and honor those who committed atrocities.

In order for the outdoors to truly be inclusive and welcoming to all, offensive place names must be removed from the American landforms. The Reconciliation in Place Names Act will ensure real progress in removing the thousands of racial slurs and offensive place names across the United States through a transparent and equitable process.

American place names should be equitable and just, honor America's cultural diversity, and advance dignity for all Americans. The Reconciliation in Place Names Act would help ensure that American place names uphold these important standards.

We support the Reconciliation in Place Names Act and request that you co-sponsor this important legislation.

Sincerely,

American Association of Geographers
American Geophysical Union
Center for Native American Youth
Defenders of Wildlife
Equality New Mexico
Hispanic Access Foundation
National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers
Native American Rights Fund
Native Organizers Alliance
Outdoor Afro
Sierra Club
Tewa Women United
The Wilderness Society