

# STATE OF COLORADO

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John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor

August 21, 2018

The Honorable Michael Bennet  
United States Senator  
261 Russell Senate Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Cory Gardner  
United States Senator  
354 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Bennet and Gardner:

I write to express my support for the San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act (S. 2721). Colorado places tremendous value on its natural landscapes, and this bill would do much to protect these critical places.

The importance to our state of maintaining wilderness areas cannot be exaggerated. Outdoor recreation in Colorado generates \$28 billion in consumer spending and contributes \$2 billion in state and local tax revenue. It also supports 229,000 jobs, providing \$9.7 billion in wages and salaries to Coloradans, including in towns that will benefit directly from this legislation.

S. 2721 also enjoys broad bipartisan support and has been endorsed by a diverse group of Colorado citizens. Together, this coalition of business leaders, elected officials, citizens groups and others have united to express their support for this monumental bill.

I thank you for your attention to this issue, and I urge you to pass this legislation as quickly as possible.

Thank you,

John W. Hickenlooper  
Governor