

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 14, 2015

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, Chairwoman
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510


Dear Chairwoman Murkowski and Ranking Member Cantwell,

We are strong supporters of the creation of the National Liberty Memorial to honor the thousands of enslaved and free black persons who fought in the Revolutionary War. The memorial has been authorized by Congress to be established in Area I or Area II in Washington, D.C. However, we understand that red tape has led to delays in the final approval of the design and location for the memorial. In order to streamline the process and keep the memorial on track to be completed in the current authorization period, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 1949, the National Liberty Memorial Clarification Act of 2015, on September 17, 2015, by a vote of 402-0.

H.R. 1949 has now been referred to your committee. We ask that you schedule a hearing early in the next session of Congress to consider this bill with a view to it being reported to the full Senate for consideration as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,


Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator


Christopher Murphy
United States Senator