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June 26, 2019

The Honorable Dan Sullivan  
U.S. Senate  
302 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse  
U.S. Senate  
530 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Sullivan and Senator Whitehouse:

I write on behalf of Ocean Conservancy to applaud your leadership on the issue of ocean plastic pollution, and to express Ocean Conservancy's support for the legislation that you have authored to address this challenge, the Save Our Seas Act 2.0.

As you know all too well, plastic pollution is a serious and prolific threat to our ocean. Plastic has been found everywhere from the deepest reaches of the Mariana Trench to the most remote Arctic ice, impacting more than 800 marine species along the way. It has been found in 59% of sea birds, in 100% of sea turtle species, and more than 25% of fish sampled from seafood markets around the world. Scientists estimate that without further action, plastic could outweigh finfish in the ocean by 2050. Action is required.

Last year, we were happy to work with you to enact the Save Our Seas Act, an important first step forward in the fight against ocean plastic pollution. It was heartening to watch bipartisan support for action grow as the public became ever more aware of this problem.

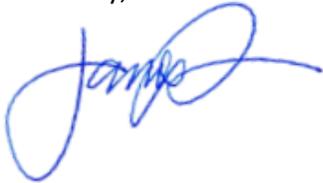
As the next step in our fight against plastic pollution in our oceans and waterways, SOS Act 2.0 appropriately and necessarily broadens the scope for action. We appreciate the legislation's clear recognition that plastic pollution is a global problem, as it will take a combination of international cooperation and domestic leadership to tackle the issue. By focusing efforts on more scientific research, the bill will help us better understand and address the root causes of plastic pollution, both here in the U.S. and around the world. SOS Act 2.0 proposes a variety of new measures to bolster international engagement and cooperation to address the marine debris crisis. The bill also proposes a host of new efforts here at home to improve our waste management system, particularly our recycling infrastructure. Identifying incentives to encourage the recycling of plastic, and more effectively capturing that kind of waste, will help us close the life-cycle loop on the material.

In addition to eliminating plastic waste leakage into the environment, we must do more to reduce the use of unnecessary plastic products and promote alternative non-plastic, sustainable materials that do not create additional negative impacts on our environment. As introduced, the bill takes some

important steps in the right direction. We believe there's room to do more to reduce unnecessary plastic consumption and are eager to collaborate with you on strengthening the bill in that regard.

Introduction of the bill obviously is just the beginning of the process. We appreciate your continued leadership on this issue, and we look forward to working with you to strengthen the bill and encourage Congress to approve it. Ocean Conservancy is proud to be your partner in this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Janis", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Janis Searles Jones  
CEO  
Ocean Conservancy