

# Wayne Allard

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## ALLARD UPSET OVER DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR REVERSAL OVER SAN DUNES BILL SAYS REVERSAL ON SUPPORT DISSERVICE TO COLORADO

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) today said he was “very disappointed” in the Department of Interior’s decision to reverse itself on support for his legislation to make the Great Sand Dunes National Monument into a national park.

“I am deeply disappointed that a very critical juncture in the legislative process the administration would withdraw its support for this important bill,” Allard said. “Last December, at the Sand Dunes, Secretary Babbitt pledged his support in helping get this bill through Congress this year. His Department’s decision to oppose my bill looks like that pledge will not be honored.”

Allard worked for more than six months with Colorado Third District Scott McInnis and Colorado U.S. Senator Ben “Nighthorse” Campbell to produce a bill to make the Sand Dunes, located in the San Luis Valley in southern Colorado, a national park.

On June 22, the Senate Energy Subcommittee on Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation held a hearing on Allard’s bill (S.2547). At that hearing, the Department of Interior testified in favor of the Allard’s bill. During negotiations with Senator Allard’s office over the last month, the Department of Interior began expressing reservations about the water language in his bill and informed him that they will now oppose the bill.

“I will continue to do everything I can to make sure we get San Dunes National Park bill passed this session,” added Allard. “But unless the Department of Interior drops its opposition to my legislation in the Senate, it will be very difficult to accomplish that goal.”

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