

[Date]

The Honorable [full name]  
[Address] House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20003

Dear Representative [name],

The [name Section/Chapter] of The Wildlife Society is writing to request **your cosponsorship of the Migratory Bird Protection Act (H.R. 4833)**, introduced in July by Representatives Alan Lowenthal (D-CA) and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA). This legislation would promote common-sense conservation efforts for our nation's bird species by affirming the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's multi-stakeholder approach to implementation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Founded in 1937, The Wildlife Society and its 15,000 professional and associated members work to inspire, empower, and enable wildlife biologists and managers to sustain wildlife populations and habitat through science based management and conservation. The [name Section/Chapter] of The Wildlife Society [geographic area covered, mission, types of members, # of members...].

Since 1918, The Migratory Bird Treaty Act has successfully protected millions of birds from harassment and unnecessary take. For more than four decades, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has interpreted protections against take to include incidental take, or the harming or killing of MBTA listed species during otherwise routine industrial activities.. However, implementation of these protections has suffered with the expansion of modern hazards, such as energy extraction and utility operations. This has been further exacerbated by prior Administration attempts to remove incidental take from the purview of MBTA enforcement.

H.R. 4833 would ensure that the incidental take of MBTA listed species is covered under the MBTA regardless of changes in administration policy. In addition, H.R. 4833 would create greater regulatory certainty by ensuring the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has the authority to work with private partners on the establishment of an incidental take permitting program designed for private entities following best management and conservation practices in operations. Funds generated by this program would then pay into existing federal migratory bird conservation initiatives.

Thank you for considering cosponsorship of this important legislation. If you have any questions regarding the Migratory Bird Protection Act and the [name Section/Chapter] of The Wildlife Society's support for this legislation, please feel free to reach [yourself/other appropriate person] at [contact information].

Sincerely,

[Name, affiliation, contact information]

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**Instructions for sending your letter:**

- Feel free to personalize this letter. The more state-specific information you are able to provide the better.
- Send the letter as a PDF in an email attachment
- Email the relevant House staff member directly with a brief note stating your affiliation and a ~one sentence overview of the letter's request. (If you do not know the proper staff member, TWS can help: contact [policy@wildlife.org](mailto:policy@wildlife.org).)
- We recommend contacting members of the U.S. House that align with the boundaries of your unit, as that is where your unit will have the most influence. This legislation has presently only been introduced in the U.S. House, so members of your Senate delegation should not receive this correspondence.
- Only members of the House of Representatives that are not currently listed as cosponsors should receive this request. You can find a list of current cosponsors by visiting [congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4833/](https://congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4833/). If members of your congressional delegation are already listed as cosponsors, consider sending them a thank you letter instead.