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THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



ADRIANO ESPAILLAT
SENATOR
31ST DISTRICT

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
HOUSING
COMMITTEE MEMBER
CODES
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
HIGHER EDUCATION
INSURANCE
FINANCE
JUDICIARY
RULES

September 1, 2015

Hon. Bob Smith
New Jersey State Senator
216 Stelton Rd.
Suite E-5
Piscataway, NJ 08854

Dear Senator Bob Smith:

We are writing to express our support for your legislation, which would prohibit any development over 35 feet in the 'viewshed' of the Palisades (S.2025). As you know, two years ago environmental groups and elected officials came together to stop the construction of the proposed 143-foot LG tower, which would have protruded high above the Palisades tree line. Earlier this year an agreement was successfully reached, and the building will only be approximately 69 feet tall. This was a great achievement, but the episode was a reminder that intrusive development in the Palisades Park is possible.

As you mention in your bill, the Palisades has been recognized by many for its natural beauty, including by Congress, who declared it a National Historic Landmark. Sadly, too often we do not protect our natural gems in time. If S.2025 becomes law, we can avoid making that mistake with the Palisades. Your bill will ensure the spectacular views of the Palisades from New York and from the cliffs of New Jersey remain awe-inspiring.

These views have remained largely unspoiled since Henry Hudson's voyage more than 400 years ago, and have inspired countless people in both states from the great artists of the Hudson River School to the residents of our districts. In addition, the views attract tourism to both our states, which helps to grow our economies.

In 1900 New Jersey Governor Foster Voorheers, and the great conservationist, New York Governor Theodore Roosevelt, came together to create the Palisades Interstate Park Commission, an organization that still works to protect the Palisades today. As elected officials representing the shores of the Hudson we will continue to stand with you to carry on the great tradition of New York and New Jersey elected officials bannng together to protect the Palisades Park.

Sincerely,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adriano Espaillat".

Senator Adriano Espaillat
31st Senate District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Stewart-Cousins".

Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins
35th Senate District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Klein".

Senator Jeff Klein
34th Senate District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Hoylman".

Senator Brad Hoylman
27th Senate District

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Carlucci".

Senator David Carlucci
38th Senate District