



STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD  
SUBMITTED TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

HEARING ON

“INTERIOR DEPARTMENT FY2019 BUDGET”

MARCH 15, 2018

ALLIANCE FOR RETIRED AMERICANS  
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The Alliance for Retired Americans appreciates the opportunity to submit comments to the Committee on Natural Resources on the hearing titled, "Interior Department FY2019 Budget."

Founded in 2001, the Alliance is a grassroots organization representing more than 4.3 million retirees and seniors nationwide. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the Alliance and its 36 state chapters work to advance public policy that strengthens the health and economic security of older Americans by teaching seniors how to make a difference through activism.

Secretary Zinke and the Trump Administration are blaming seniors, veterans, people with disabilities and even school children for higher entry fees at our national parks. This is happening at the same time that the Trump Administration's own budget proposal cuts the National Park Service funding by \$493 million next year. The Administration also slashed funding for the park service last year.

In addition, the Administration and congressional leaders just passed an enormous tax cut for corporations the wealthiest Americans. Now they want middle-and low-income Americans to pay more to visit our national treasures.

Our national parks are for the entire American public to enjoy. It is disgraceful to blame veterans and seniors who have already sacrificed and given so much to this country, and those individuals who are least able to afford it, for the Administration's misplaced priorities.

On behalf of its more than 4.3 million members, the Alliance for Retired Americans appreciates the opportunity to submit this testimony on this critically important issue.