June 6, 2018

The Honorable [Full Name]  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Claude Moore Colonial Farm at Turkey Run National Park Site

Dear Representative [Last Name]:

The National Park Service (NPS) is closing the Claude Moore Colonial Farm (Farm), a living history museum in McLean Virginia that the NPS established in 1972 to portray the life of a poor farm family just before the Revolution. In 1981, the Friends assumed management of the Farm when the NPS was going to mothball it due to lack of funds. The Farm demonstrates the best of America as a privately run and community funded park with thousands of volunteers. In a world where children are tied to their phones, have little knowledge of their history and have no idea where their food comes from, the Farm fills this need with its educational programs, crops and animals.

The NPS proposes oppressive and burdensome terms to replace the extended 1981 cooperative agreement limiting our ability to operate the Farm and fund it. The NPS says they are following a DOI directive to improve management and reduce corruption in cooperative and friends’ agreements. The Farm *receives no federal* *funds* (unique in the National Park System) and has never given the NPS cause to question its management, historical accuracy or integrity over 37 years.

Representative Barbara Comstock has introduced legislation, H.R. 5201, to save the Farm, and we are rallying our many supporters. We worry that the NPS will close the Farm before the legislations passes. Please support passage of this bill and consider being a co-sponsor. With your help the Farm will not only survive, it will thrive and continue to serve both our local communities and international visitors as it has for more than 45 years.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

Cc: Congresswoman Barbara Comstock  
 Congressman Don Young  
 Congressman Don Beyer  
 Congressman Louie Gohmert  
 Chairman Rob Bishop and Members of the House Natural Resources Committee  
 Senator Mark Warner  
 Senator Timothy Kaine  
 Chairman Lisa Murkowski and Members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee