



**SUPPORTING HOUSE RESOLUTION 819 (H.R. 819) PRESERVING ACCESS TO THE
CAPE HATTERAS NATIONAL SEASHORE RECREATIONAL AREA ACT**

WHEREAS, H.R. 819 introduced by Congressman Walter Jones (NC-3) to preserve access to the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area, reintroduces a previous bill that passed the House of Representatives in the last Congress but failed to make it out of the Senate committee; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 819 would restore balance and common sense to the National Park Service management by overturning a final rule implemented by them in mid-February 2012, as well as the 2008 U.S. District Court approved Consent Decree, both of which excessively restrict human access to the Recreational Area; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 819 would assure taxpayers the right to access the recreational areas they own by reinstating the Park Service's 2007 Interim Management Strategy, which was supported by a 113-page Biological Opinion issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service finding that species of concern, including piping plover and sea turtles, would not be jeopardized; and

WHEREAS, the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area was created by Congress in 1937 as America's first National Seashore with the promise that people would always have access for recreation; and

WHEREAS, a tourism based economy has been developed on Bodie Island, Hatteras Island and Ocracoke Island, where beach access has always been the defining element of the visitor's complete seashore experience and the foundation of the area's economic base upon which thousands of families depend for their livelihood.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Nags Head Board of Commissioners supports open public access to the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area consistent with the promises made in the enabling legislation and supports H.R. 819 as effective legislation that would balance resource management with recreational access for Nags Head's residents and visitors.

This 6th day of March, 2013.



Robert O. Oakes, Jr., Mayor
Town of Nags Head

ATTEST:

Carolyn F. Morris, Town Clerk