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## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4607

March 10, 2017

Mr. Larry Probst III, Chair  
United States Olympic Committee  
One Olympic Plaza  
Colorado Springs, CO 80909

Dear Mr. Probst:

It is my understanding that an agreement has been reached and is awaiting final USOC approval under which the American Canoe Association would be granted National Governing Body status for Paddlesports. The American Canoe Association's grassroots network ranges from novice to expert paddlers, and it provides education opportunities at all levels. I write to trumpet the value of this organization based in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

I have been pleased to work with the American Canoe Association to promote the quality of life benefits of outdoor recreation in Virginia and the importance of the outdoor recreation economy in supporting tourism and jobs. Several years ago, the Association facilitated a memorable afternoon on the Potomac River with a group of disabled veterans at Marine Corps Base Quantico, who demonstrated various equipment designs that facilitated their ability to canoe and kayak despite their disabilities.

As someone whose family has always enjoyed canoeing and the outdoors and who represents the state where the American Canoe Association is headquartered, I encourage you to give full and fair consideration to this proposal. I also look forward to exploring mutual opportunities with the Association and the USOC to promote paddling and outdoor recreation in Virginia and across the country.

Thank you for your consideration, and best wishes to Team USA in the coming Olympic games.

Sincerely,

