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July 21, 2012

Dear Friends,

Please accept my warmest greetings and heartfelt congratulations as you gather today to celebrate the designation of Monson as Maine's first Appalachian Trail Community!

It is a pleasure to join with New England Director of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, Hawk Metheny; Monson Town Manager, Julie Anderson; and Maine Appalachian Trail Club President, Lester Kenway, in celebrating this milestone occasion.

Indeed, Monson's designation as our great state's first – and our nation's 22nd – Appalachian Trail Community is a fitting and sterling tribute to this outstanding town and its remarkable citizens. The people of Monson have always embraced the Appalachian Trail as a vital asset and have striven tirelessly to provide the highest quality respite for those adventurers trekking the Trail in search of our magnificent Mount Katahdin. The special distinction honors you for your commitment to the Trail and recognizes your dedication to serving all those hoping to experience it – and so we wholeheartedly congratulate you on this tremendous and prestigious recognition!

As we celebrate the birth of this wonderful partnership between the Conservancy and the Town and as we reflect upon the wonders and splendor of the Appalachian Trail, we offer our deepest gratitude to all those here today who have been devoted stewards of this fantastic national treasure. Again, congratulations!

Sincerely,


OLYMPIA J. SNOWE
United States Senator

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