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TERRI A. SEWELL
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ALABAMA, DISTRICT 7
August 31, 2015

National Park Service
U.S. Department of Interior
Director Jonathan B. Jarvis
1849 C Street, NW, Room 3325
Washington, DC 20240

Re: A.G. Gaston Motel National Monument Designation

Director Jarvis:

As representative of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I write to offer my full support for the A.G. Gaston Motel National Monument Designation by the National Park Service of the U.S. Department of Interior.

The A.G. Gaston Motel is a historical landmark in Birmingham, Alabama known for hosting countless notable civil rights leaders traveling to and through Alabama during the Civil Rights Movement. To this day, the Motel remains an architectural, social, and cultural icon. This motel has recently been named a "deteriorating relic." Rehabilitation of this historic motel would revive this vacant site and serve as an anchor for future development projects within the Birmingham Civil Rights Historic District.

In order to culminate the vision, the applicant calls for the implementation of a comprehensive and strategic redevelopment plan that includes complex economic and marketing strategies. Through partnerships and a myriad of resources, the goal is to develop a sound plan that is innovative in preserving the motel's historic integrity, generating national awareness, and serving as a conduit for economic development.

Additionally, designation as a national landmark would afford the A.G. Gaston Motel future opportunities to work with other historic sites within the Civil Rights District and state to preserve the historical significance of locations pertinent to the civil right movement.

It is with great pleasure that I support the nomination of A.G. Gaston Motel as a National monument. I thank you in advance for your consideration and attention to this matter. Please contact my office if I or a member of my staff may be of further assistance at (205) 254-1960.

Sincerely,

TERRI SEWELL
Member of Congress

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