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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **House opens the door to plundering the Arctic Refuge**

WASHINGTON – Today, the U.S. House of Representatives voted on the FY18 budget resolution (216-212). Individual [vote count can be found here](#).

#### **Statement by Adam Kolton, Executive Director, Alaska Wilderness League:**

“One of the things that makes America the greatest country on Earth is our national parks, wildlife refuges and other cherished landscapes.

Unfortunately, the budget advanced today includes a backdoor scheme to turn over one of our most iconic landscapes – the Coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge – to oil companies so we can increase exports of petroleum to China and other countries.

This isn't what the American people want. Since President Eisenhower created it in 1960, Republicans and Democrats have joined to protect ‘America’s Serengeti.’ It’s vital now that everyone who believes we should not rob our children of their natural heritage stand up and make their voices heard.

This \$1.5 trillion unpaid for tax scheme is bad enough without an Arctic drilling poison pill that offers no benefits to the American people except more carbon pollution a decade from now. It’s time to draw a line in the tundra. We must save this last great wilderness.”

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The Arctic Refuge is one of our nation’s most majestic places, home to the Porcupine Caribou Herd, musk oxen, wolves, imperiled polar bears, and nearly 200 species of migratory birds that migrate to six continents and all 50 states.



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