Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

October 21, 2015

Mr. J. Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
and National Historic Landmarks Program
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street NW (2280), 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

It has come to our attention that the National Historic Landmarks Committee of the National Park System Advisory Board will soon evaluate a nomination for Mississippi's State Capitol. We wholeheartedly support this nomination.

Mississippi's Capitol, considered by many to be the state's finest building, is an architectural masterpiece that has attracted both acclaim and visitors from around the country and the world. Designed in 1900 by St. Louis architect Theodore Link, it was among the first grand buildings in America constructed in the style of Beaux Arts Classicism, which came to dominate American public architecture in the early 20th century. The Capitol's artistry and craftsmanship can be seen in its limestone exterior, classical portico with bas-relief sculpture, and imposing colonnaded dome crowned by a gilded eagle. The interior includes an awe-inspiring rotunda, grand marble staircase, stained glass windows by Chicago artist Louis Millet, and scagliola art marble in a rich variety of colors and patterns.

Many generations of Mississippi's citizens, legislators, architects, craftsmen, and historians have taken great pride in the Capitol and worked diligently to preserve its architectural integrity. We hope the Advisory Board will recognize these many attributes and recommend the Mississippi State Capitol for designation as a National Historic Landmark.

Sincerely,

Thad Cochran
United States Senator

Roger F. Wicker
United States Senator

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

Bennie G. Thompson
United States Representative

Gregg Harper
United States Representative

Steven M. Palazzo
United States Representative

Trent Kelly
United States Representative