

ALEX X. MOONEY
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4802

CHARLESTON OFFICE:
405 CAPITOL STREET
SUITE 514
CHARLESTON, WV 25301
(304) 925-5964

MARTINSBURG OFFICE:
300 FOXCROFT AVENUE
SUITE 102
MARTINSBURG, WV 25401
(304) 264-8810

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1232 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2711

<http://mooney.house.gov>

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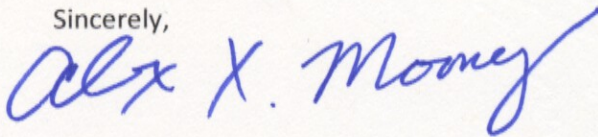
Dear Friends:

Thank you for the invitation to join you. I regret that I can't be with you today due to Congress being in session, but I send you my best wishes for a successful event.

As proud West Virginians, we honor the lifetime of service and dedication to our State by Senator Robert C. Byrd. For more than sixty years, he dedicated his life to public service and made it his life's purpose to advocate for the Mountain State. This traveling exhibit is a great opportunity to honor and tell the amazing story of the longest serving Member of Congress and a West Virginia icon, as well as honoring the 100th Anniversary of his birth.

Thank you Commissioner Smith, the West Virginia Humanities Council, Robert C. Byrd Center of Congressional History and Education, and everyone who worked diligently to make the event happen. It is an honor to serve you!

Sincerely,



Alex X. Mooney
Member of Congress