

# NEWS RELEASE

**Friends of Alta**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **FRIENDS OF ALTA OPPOSES HR: 3452 aka "SkiLink"**

SALT LAKE CITY – The Friends of Alta, a Utah Land Trust and conservation group through its Board of Director's, voted to oppose the SkiLink bill (HR 3452) ("Wasatch Range Recreation Access Enhancement Act") which has been introduced to Congress by Utah's Rep. Rob Bishop.

Friends of Alta opposes SkiLink because it is a paid for effort to shortcut the environmental review process established more than 40 years ago by Congress and sustained through our Court system. HR 3452 was introduced on behalf of SkiLink advocates and seeks to have Congress intervene to undo four decades of environmental precedent.

In particular, the Board of Friends of Alta objects to the circumventing of Forest Service procedures and congressionally mandated environmental laws. If passed by Congress, SkiLink would set a bad precedent for selling public lands to private companies that hire Washington lobbyists to circumvent well established environmental precedent. Such action would have an adverse impact nationwide, but particularly at Alta. The SkiLink proposal, as presented by Talisker (a Canadian Development Company) which owns the Canyons ski resort, ignores most public processes which have been carefully developed over the last several decades, including the Wasatch Canyons Tomorrow and other extensive studies of the canyons and wilderness lands.

Friends of Alta is a land trust organization whose mission is to protect the environment of Alta, including watershed and wildlife habitat areas of the headwaters of Little Cottonwood Creek; to preserve Alta's unique character and heritage; and to encourage stewardship and sustainability of Alta's environment and community.