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United States Senate

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September 27, 2017

Kristin Sanders
State Historic Preservation Officer
Post Office Box 44247
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Dear Ms. Sanders:

I write to offer my support for Avery Island's nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Avery Island has a rich history and is an important part of Louisiana's unique culture.

Once an Iberia Parish sugar plantation operated by the Avery family, the Island sits atop a salt dome deposit discovered by Native Americans who traded the salt as far away as Texas, Arkansas and Ohio. In 1859, Edmund McIlhenny married into the Avery family and nine years later founded McIlhenny Company, which manufactures the popular Tabasco brand pepper sauce using tabasco peppers, vinegar and salt from the dome. More than 100,000 birds and other species such as egrets, black bears, otters, and muskrats along with a variety of exotic plants also inhabit the Jungle Gardens and Bird City on the Island.

Avery Island is a place to witness the natural and cultural beauty in Louisiana. I enthusiastically support Avery Island's nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Blake Schindler at blake_schindler@cassidy.senate.gov or at (202) 224-5824.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator