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Cumberland Island Variances and Rezoning for Private Development
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Commissioner Jimmy Starline,

During your study and consideration of this subject, please know that I am firmly against any action taken by you and Camden County to permit any private or commercial development (within and) adjacent to Cumberland Island National Seashore; one of the largest and most ecologically diverse barrier islands on the Atlantic coast.

Cumberland Island is not just a local resource. It provides an unparalleled experience for local, National and International Visitors:

- Cumberland Island National Seashore (with almost 18 miles of pristine beach and one of the largest oak maritime forests remaining in the United States) protects the largest designated wilderness area on an East Coast barrier island.
- Cumberland Island National Seashore's physical isolation provides visitors opportunities to experience outdoor recreation in an uncrowded, undeveloped setting. Moreover, this isolation helps to preserve and protect the island's fragile natural and cultural resources.
- The uncrowded setting is important because it allows visitors to have opportunities for passive and active recreation. The absence of crowds and overwhelming development provides opportunities for solitude and exploration. The island's beaches, flora, fauna, trails, and surrounding waters, as well its cultural sites, present opportunities for a broad array of interests and recreational pursuits.

You are a key steward of this precious resource. I look forward to your consideration of this significant responsibility and your decisions that follow.

S/Tom Canning
St. Marys, Ga.