



## **Help BMTA Succeed in Its Quest to Become the 12<sup>th</sup> National Scenic Trail**

As a resident in Georgia's 10th Congressional District, please contact your Congressional representative, Jody Hice, to explain why YOU think the BMT should become a National Scenic Trail.

First, find your ZIP+4, type "zip code lookup" in your browser. Use "Find by Address". Note your ZIP+4.

Type [house.gov](http://house.gov) in your browser.

In the "FIND YOUR REPRESENTATIVE" search box (top right), enter your Zip+4.

Select Congressman Hice's name (under photo on the left).

Select "CONTACT" (usually in the top menu bar).

To send an email, follow the instructions for completing the form — fill in your name, address, phone, email address, etc.)

If you see the "I'm not a robot" box, be sure to check it when it appears!

If you get a response "*the address you entered could not be found in our database*", it may be because you are not a registered voter in that district. Perhaps it is your vacation home. Emails are deleted if they are not from constituents.

You will need to choose your "issue of concern". Choose "Environment". Enter: "National Scenic Trail" for the subject of your message.

Then enter your comments. Suggested topics include:

- ◆ Becoming a National Scenic Trail will bring an economic boost to communities near the trail.
- ◆ Thousands of hikers use the Benton MacKaye Trail every year.
- ◆ Scenic vistas, spectacular waterfalls and bubbling streams highlight the hikers' journey as they enjoy the wide array of wildflowers in the spring, the emerald-green forest of summer, the colorful fall leaves or an exquisite winter wonderland.
- ◆ Hikers and their families will patronize local campgrounds, restaurants, lodging, shuttles, outdoor retailers, etc.
- ◆ The 740-member Benton MacKaye Trail Association has a 40-year history of maintaining the 288-mile-long Benton MacKaye Trail.
- ◆ The trail is complete — it has just 15 miles of road walk remaining.
- ◆ This would be good for the breath-taking natural landscapes that encompass the BMT and at the same time, would be a boon to the local economies.
- ◆ Encourage Congressman Hice to support this issue by co-sponsoring legislation to designate the Benton MacKaye Trail a National Scenic Trail!

If you're willing to go the extra mile for BMTA (and to give a few more minutes and a stamp), please consider ALSO writing a personal note to your member of Congress. We're told that sometimes those have even more impact than email messages. If you are willing to do this, please send your note to:

The Honorable Jody Hice  
100 Court Street  
Monroe, GA 30655