

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

November 18, 2015

The Honorable Harold Rogers  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Lowey:

As the House continues crafting appropriations legislation before the current continuing resolution expires on December 11, 2015, we write to express our strong support for increasing the funding provided to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In any forthcoming appropriations legislation for FY 2016, we urge you to work with your colleagues in the Senate to ensure NIH receives an annual funding level of at least \$32 billion, equal to the level approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee, in order to maintain America's role as a global leader in biomedical research and ground-breaking medical discoveries.


We are concerned that, over the last 12 years, the federal government's contributions toward basic research at NIH have consistently failed to keep pace with inflation. By failing to at least hold NIH funding constant with other rising costs, Congress has allowed the agency's purchasing power to diminish by more than 20 percent since 2003. Indiscriminate budget cuts imposed on the agency during sequestration only further exacerbated this trend, reducing NIH's budget by an additional 5 percent in FY 2013. As the growth in other countries' investments in medical research continues to far outpace those made here in the U.S., it is more critical than ever that we act to reverse this trend.

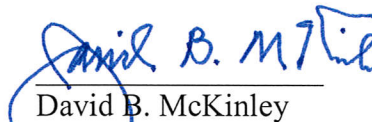
Insufficient funding for NIH has a serious, wide-ranging impact on our nation's health and our capacity for medical innovation in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. If we are serious about breaking new ground in our understanding of complex diseases like Alzheimer's and cancer, and if we hope to accelerate the speed with which new cures, treatments and vaccines are developed, then it's absolutely essential that we increase funding for medical research at NIH. Particularly given the significant investments in NIH approved earlier this year by both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, we feel strongly that now is the time to commit to our nation's long-term health and prosperity.


While we understand the difficult fiscal challenges you face, we urge you to prioritize the important role that NIH plays in biomedical research and economic growth by working to fund

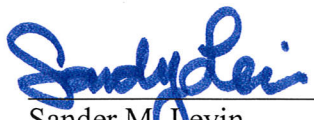
the agency at an annual level of at least \$32 billion. Thank you for your consideration of this request, which will make a meaningful difference in the lives of millions of Americans.

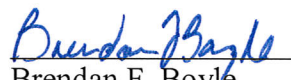
Sincerely,

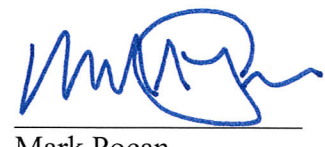
  
Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress

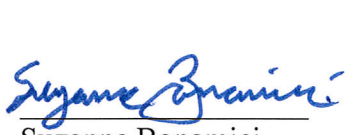
  
David B. McKinley  
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Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress

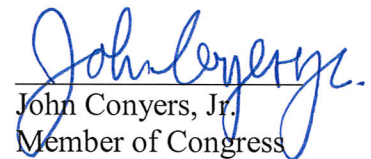
  
Sander M. Levin  
Member of Congress

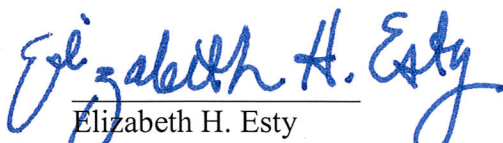
  
Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress

  
Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress

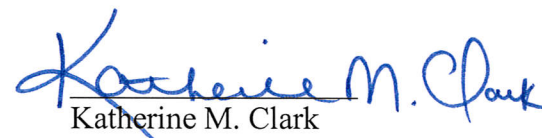
  
Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress

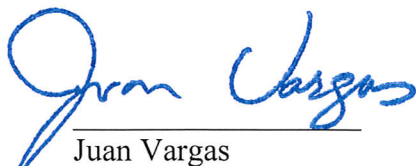
  
David N. Cicilline  
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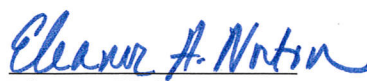
  
Niki Tsongas  
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Katherine M. Clark  
Member of Congress

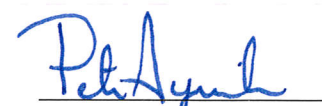
  
Juan Vargas  
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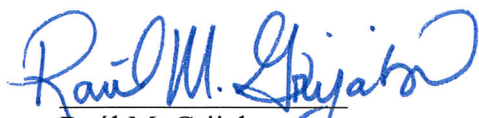
  
Dave Loebsack  
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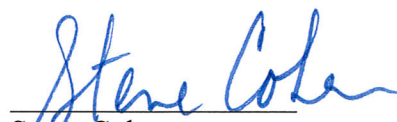
  
Earl Blumenauer  
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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
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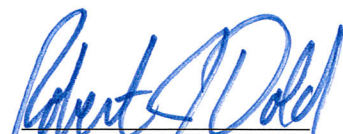
  
Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress

  
Pete Aguilar  
Member of Congress

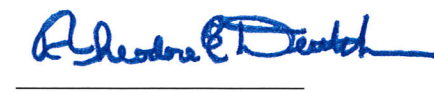
  
Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress

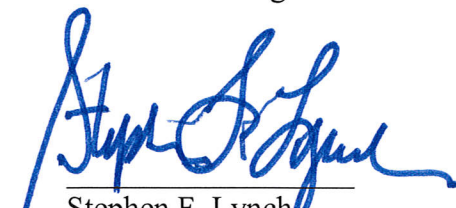
  
Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress

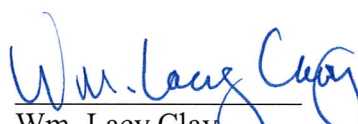
  
Robert A. Brady  
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Robert J. Dold  
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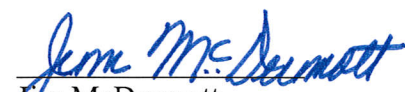
  
Daniel Lipinski  
Member of Congress

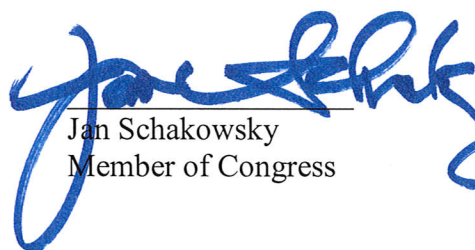
  
Theodore E. Deutch  
Member of Congress

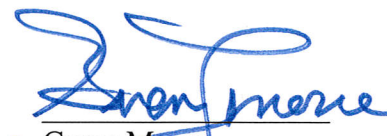
  
Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress

  
Wm. Lacy Clay  
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Eliot L. Engel  
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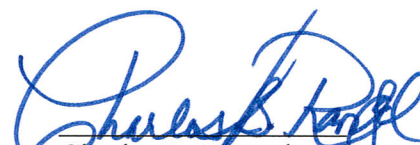
  
Jim McDermott  
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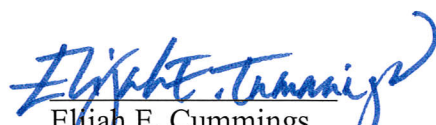
  
Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress

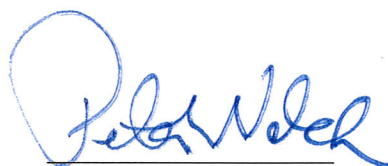
  
Gwen Moore  
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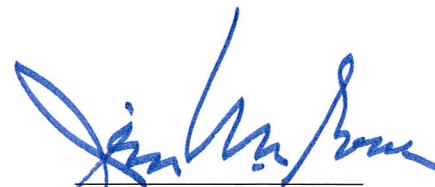
  
Mark Takai  
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Charles B. Rangel  
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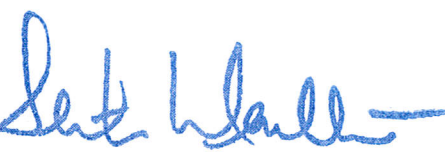
  
Elijah E. Cummings  
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Peter Welch  
Member of Congress

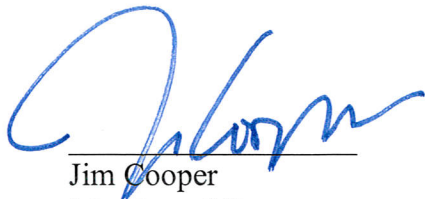
  
James P. McGovern  
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Corrine Brown  
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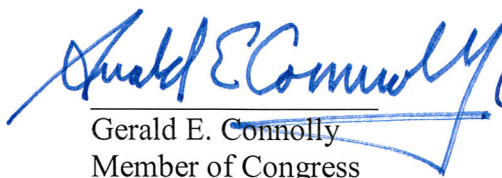
  
Michelle Lujan Grisham  
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Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress

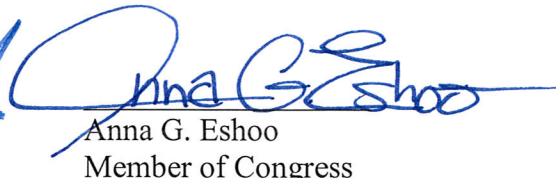




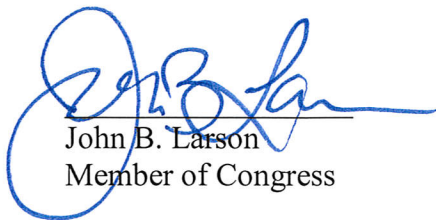
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Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



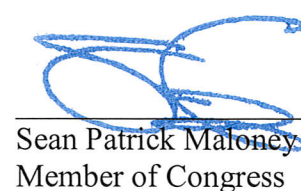
Anna G. Eshoo  
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John B. Larson  
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Michael F. Doyle  
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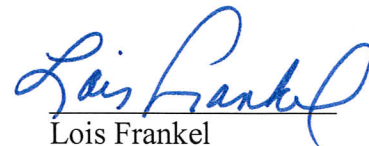
Sean Patrick Maloney  
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John K. Delaney  
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Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



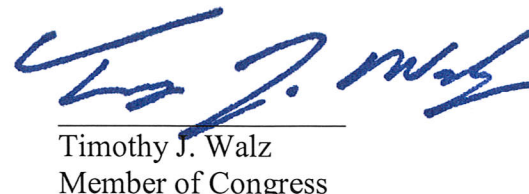
Lois Frankel  
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G. K. Butterfield  
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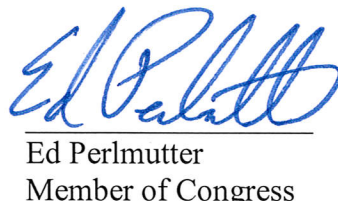
Doris O. Matsui  
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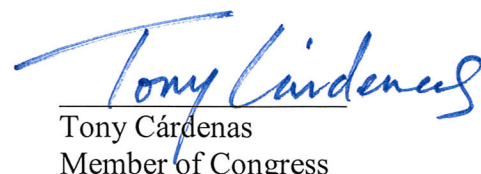
Timothy J. Walz  
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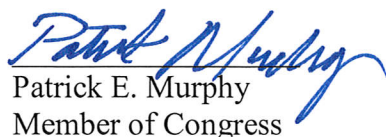
Ann Kirkpatrick  
Member of Congress



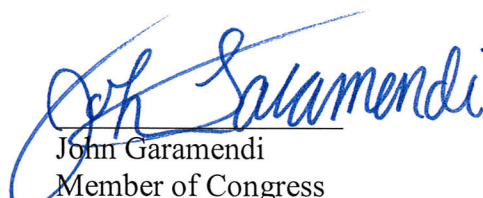
Ed Perlmutter  
Member of Congress



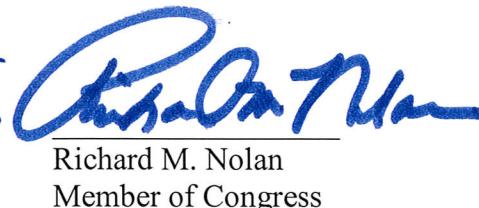
Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress



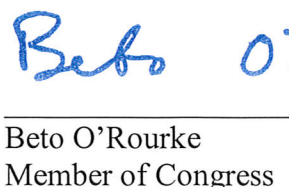
Patrick E. Murphy  
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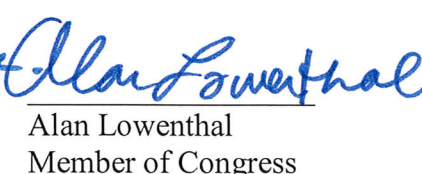
John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



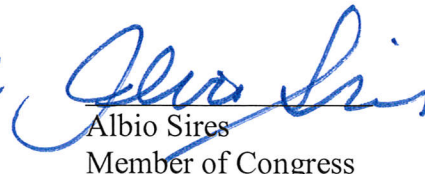
Richard M. Nolan  
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Beto O'Rourke  
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress



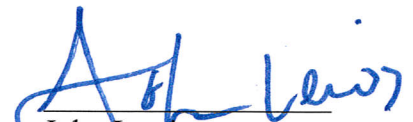
Albio Sires  
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Filemon Vela  
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Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress



John Lewis  
Member of Congress



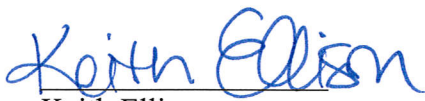
Kathy Castor  
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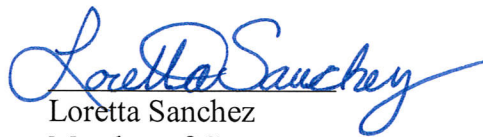
Dana Rohrabacher  
Member of Congress



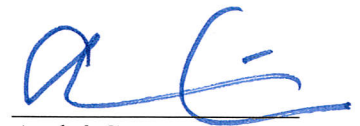
Peter A. DeFazio  
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Keith Ellison  
Member of Congress



Loretta Sanchez  
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André Carson  
Member of Congress



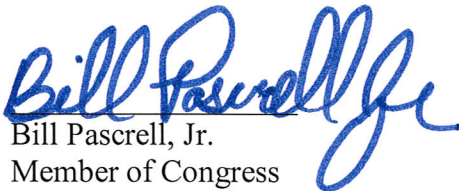
David Scott  
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Paul D. Tonko  
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Kathleen M. Rice  
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
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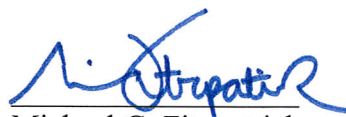
Hakeem S. Jefferies  
Member of Congress



Joseph P. Kennedy III  
Member of Congress



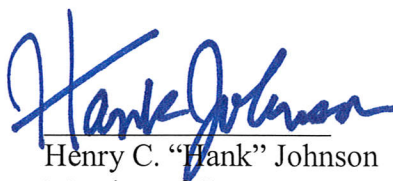
Adam Smith  
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Michael G. Fitzpatrick  
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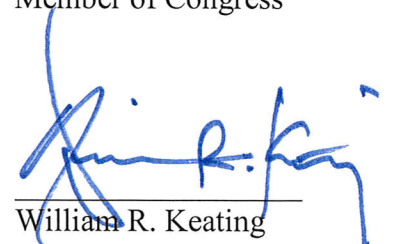
Rick Larsen  
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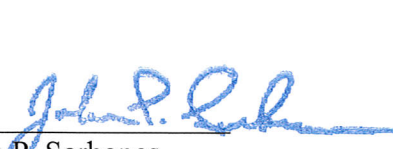
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson  
Member of Congress

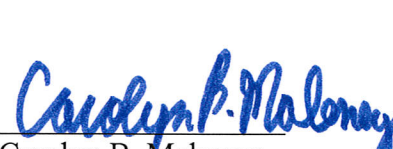


Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress





William R. Keating  
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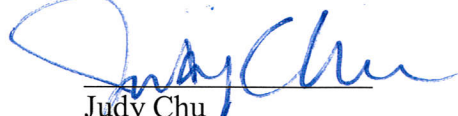
  
John P. Sarbanes  
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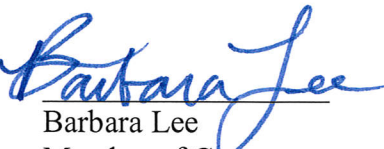
  
Carolyn B. Maloney  
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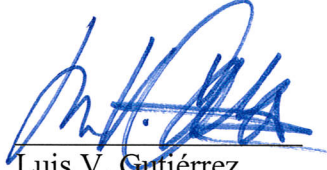
  
Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress


  
Rodney Davis  
Member of Congress


  
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress


  
Judy Chu  
Member of Congress

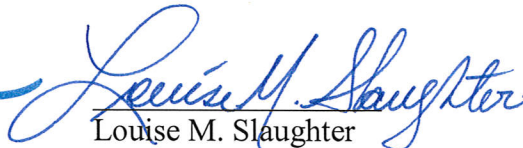
  
Barbara Lee  
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Luis V. Gutiérrez  
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Michael E. Capuano  
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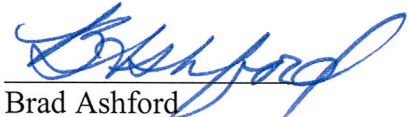
  
Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress


  
Donna F. Edwards  
Member of Congress


  
Louise M. Slaughter  
Member of Congress

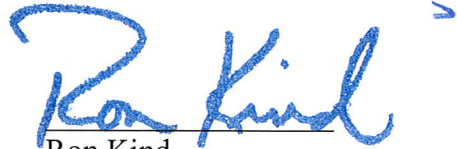
  
Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress

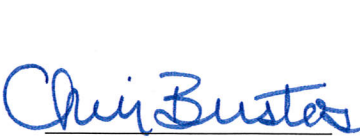
  
Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress

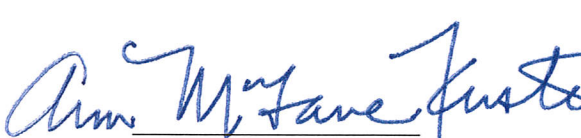
  
Brad Ashford  
Member of Congress

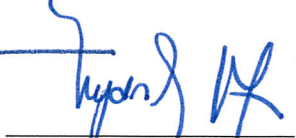
  
James R. Langevin  
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Tammy Duckworth  
Member of Congress


  
Ron Kind  
Member of Congress


  
Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress


  
Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress


  
Nydia Velázquez  
Member of Congress





  
Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress


  
Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress

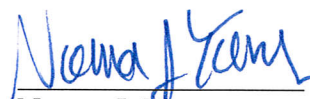
  
Mark DeSaulnier  
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Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress

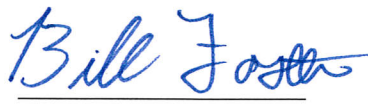
  
Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Member of Congress

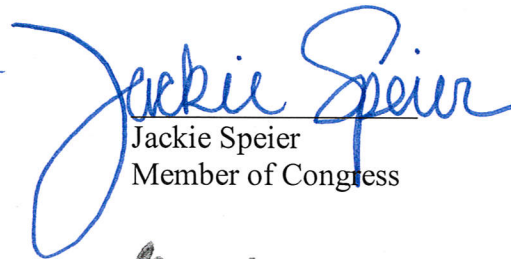
  
Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress


  
Tom Marino  
Member of Congress

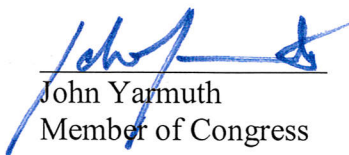
  
Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress

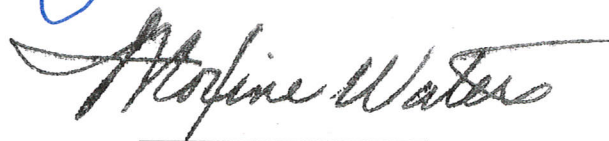
  
Kurt Schrader  
Member of Congress


  
Bill Foster  
Member of Congress

  
Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress


  
Peter T. King  
Member of Congress

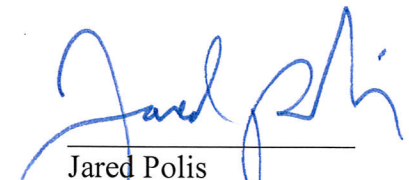
  
John Yarmuth  
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Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress

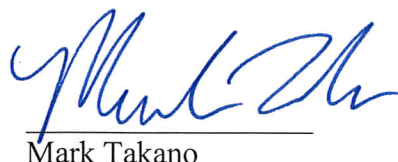
  
Chris Gibson  
Member of Congress


  
Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress

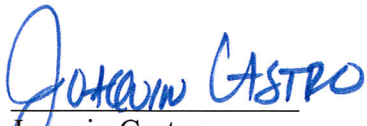
  
Zoe Lofgren  
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Jared Polis  
Member of Congress

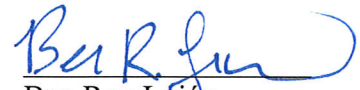
  
Steve Stivers  
Member of Congress

  
Mark Takano  
Member of Congress


  
Jim Himes  
Member of Congress

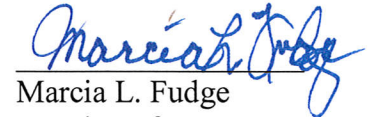
  
Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress


  
Gene Green  
Member of Congress

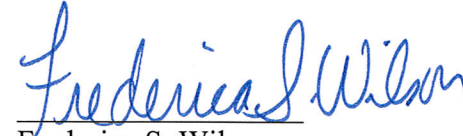
  
Ben Ray Lujan  
Member of Congress


  
Chaka Fattah  
Member of Congress


  
Dina Titus  
Member of Congress


  
Marcia L. Fudge  
Member of Congress

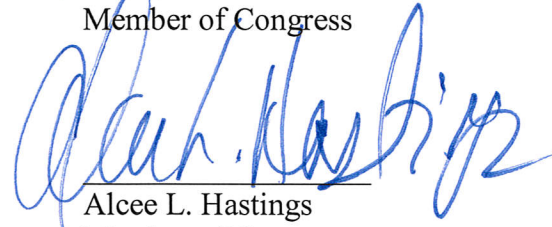
  
Raul Ruiz  
Member of Congress

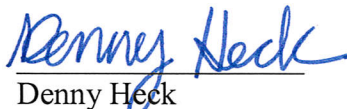
  
Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress

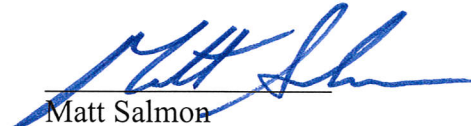
  
Stacey E. Plaskett  
Member of Congress

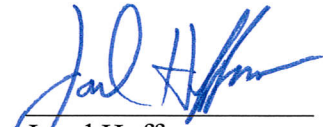
  
Rubén Hinojosa  
Member of Congress

  
Donald S. Beyer, Jr.  
Member of Congress

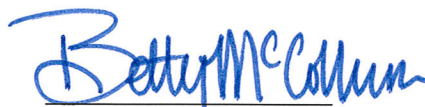
  
Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress

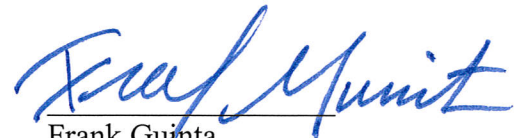
  
Denny Heck  
Member of Congress

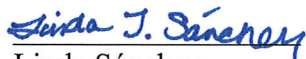
  
Matt Salmon  
Member of Congress

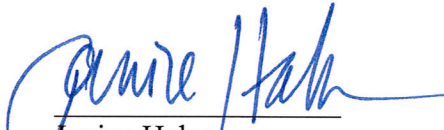
  
Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress


  
John Katko  
Member of Congress


  
Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress

  
Frank Guinta  
Member of Congress

  
Linda Sánchez  
Member of Congress

  
Janice Hahn  
Member of Congress

  
Susan W. Brooks  
Member of Congress

  
Alma Adams  
Member of Congress