

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 10, 2016

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 works to craft appropriations legislation before the current continuing resolution expires on December 9, 2016, we write to express our strong support for increasing funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In any forthcoming appropriations legislation for FY 2017, we urge you to work with your Senate colleagues to ensure NIH receives a funding level of no less than \$34 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 groundbreaking medical discoveries.

On a bipartisan basis, members of the 114th Congress have repeatedly demonstrated our clear and unambiguous support for strengthening investments in NIH. We know this funding helps us push the boundaries of scientific knowledge, advance promising research and offer hope to millions of Americans suffering from heartbreaking diseases. Federal funding for this life-saving research is also a key economic driver for our nation, supporting more than 400,000 jobs and generating over \$60 billion in new economic activity. It delivers a significant return on our investment today and for generations to come.

While the increase included in last year's omnibus appropriations bill was an important step, we remain concerned that federal investments in biomedical research have failed to keep pace with inflation over the last 13 years. By failing to hold NIH funding constant with other rising costs, Congress has allowed the agency's purchasing power to diminish by nearly 20 percent since 2003. As other countries' investments in research continue to grow at a far faster pace than those made by 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 21st century. If we are serious about breaking new ground in our understanding of complex and life-threatening conditions, then it is absolutely essential we increase funding for NIH. Simply put, we cannot hope to accelerate the development of new cures, therapies and vaccines without additional resources for research. Particularly given the significant investments in NIH approved earlier this year by the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, we feel strongly that now is the time to recommit to America's long-term health and prosperity.

While we understand the difficult fiscal challenges you face, we urge you to prioritize the important role NIH plays in medical innovation and economic growth by funding the agency at an annual level of no less than \$34 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



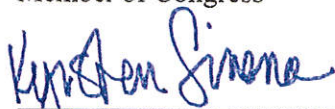
Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Patrick Meehan
Member of Congress



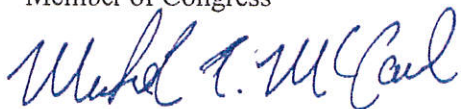
Dana Rohrabacher
Member of Congress



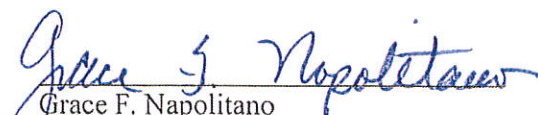
Kyrsten Sinema
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



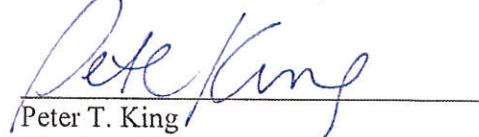
Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano
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David B. McKinley
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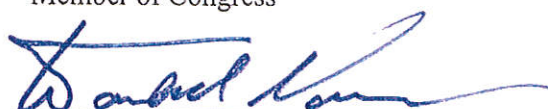
Peter T. King
Member of Congress



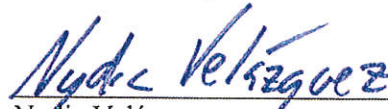
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Sander M. Levin
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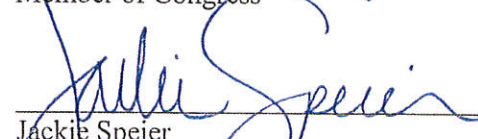
Donald Norcross
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Nydia Velázquez
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Wm. Lacy Clay
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Jackie Speier
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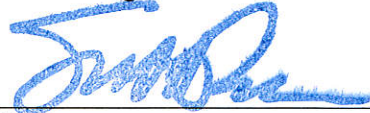
Andy Barr
Member of Congress



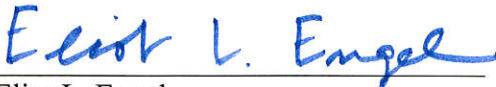
Timothy J. Walz
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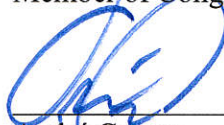
Michelle Lujan Grisham
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Scott H. Peters
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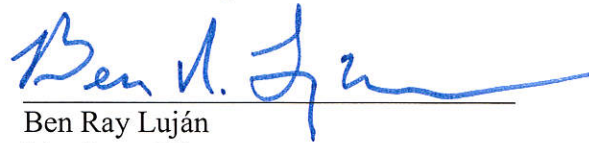
Eliot L. Engel
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André Carson
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Brad Ashford
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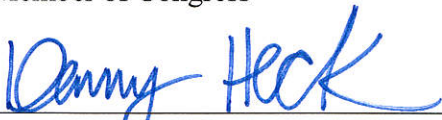
Ben Ray Luján
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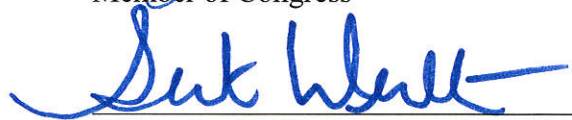
Ann McLane Kuster
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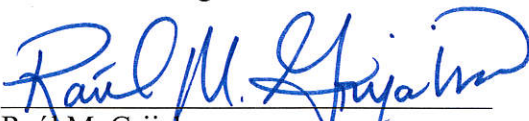
Elijah E. Cummings
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Denny Heck
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Seth Moulton
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Raúl M. Grijalva
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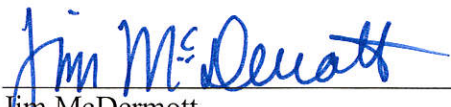
Robert A. Brady
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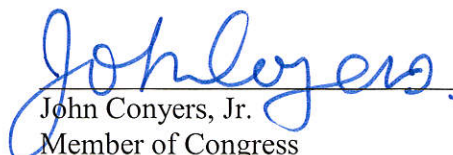
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James R. Langevin
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Bill Pascrell, Jr.
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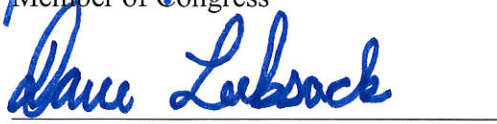

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



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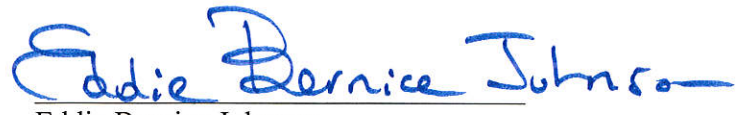

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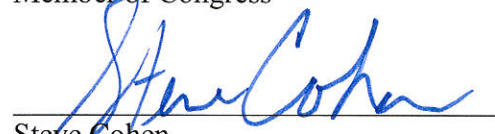

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Michael M. Honda
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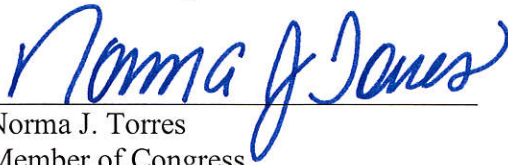

Luis V. Gutiérrez
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Kathy Castor
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Julia Brownley
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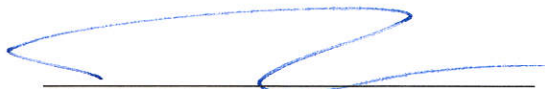
Tulsi Gabbard
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Norma J. Torres
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Barbara Lee
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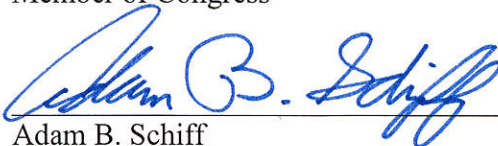
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Rodney Davis
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Peter Welch
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Tony Cárdenas
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Joyce Beatty
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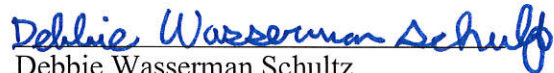
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson
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Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



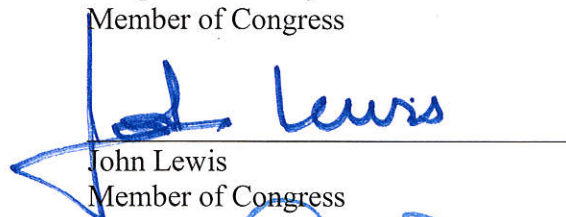
David E. Price
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Debbie Wasserman Schultz
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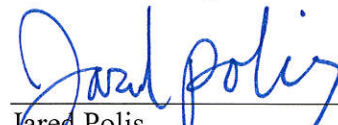
Joseph P. Kennedy III
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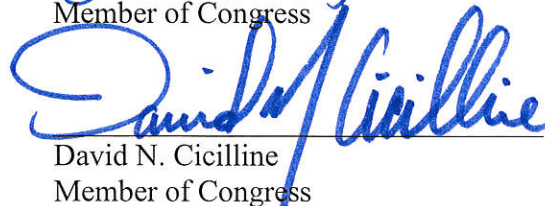
John Lewis
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Donald M. Payne, Jr.
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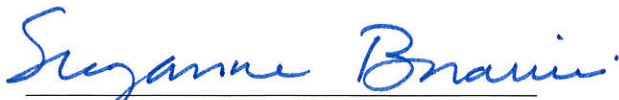
Jared Polis
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David N. Cicilline
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Jim Cooper
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Suzanne Bonamici
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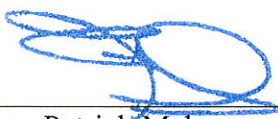
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Peter A. DeFazio
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Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
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Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



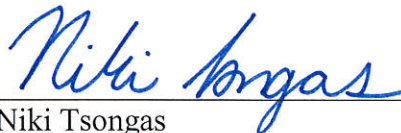
Lois Frankel
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Dina Titus
Member of Congress



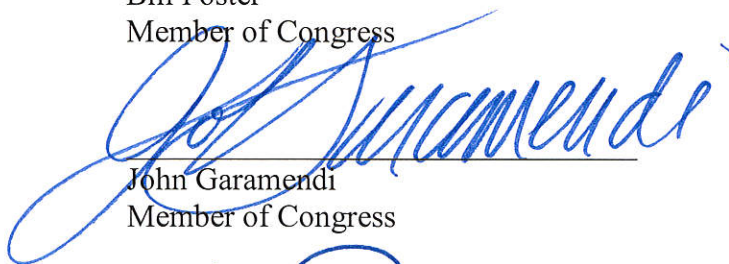
Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress



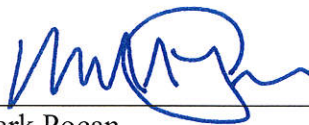
Niki Tsongas
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Bill Foster
Member of Congress



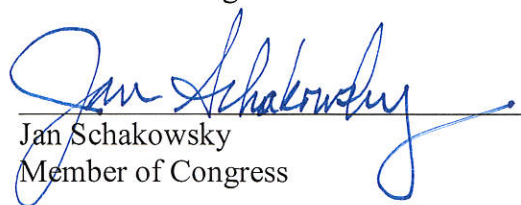
John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



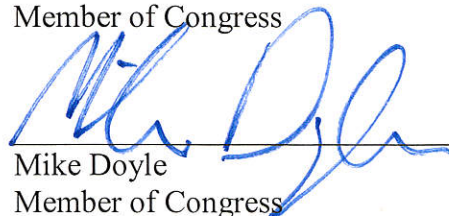
Al Green
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Karen Bass
Member of Congress



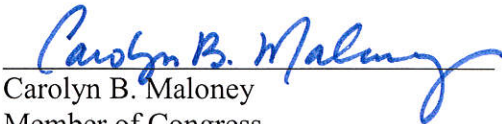
Mike Doyle
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



Hakeem S. Jeffries
Member of Congress



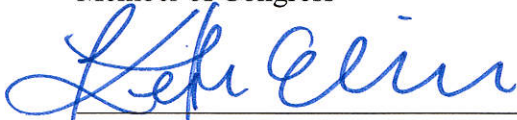
Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress



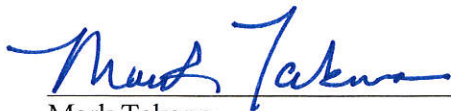
Keith Ellison
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



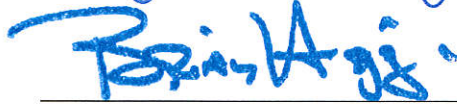
Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



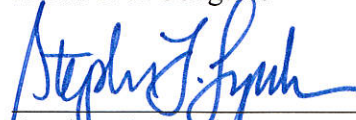
Mark Takano
Member of Congress



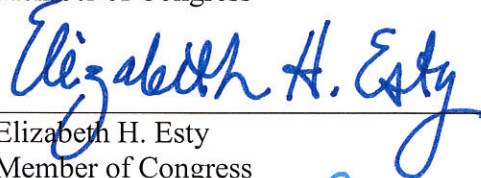
Grace Meng
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



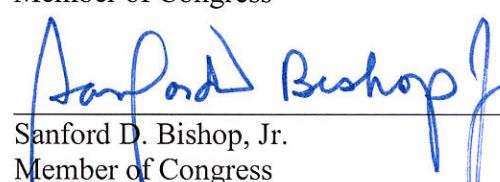
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



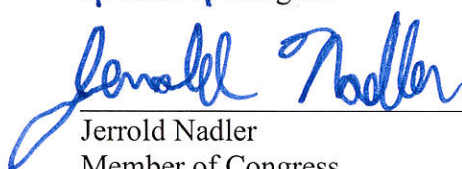
Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes
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Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



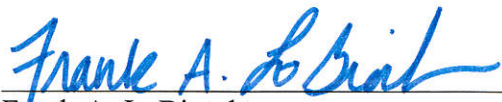
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Brenda L. Lawrence
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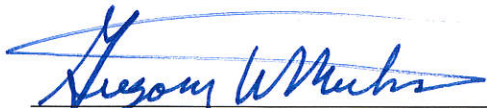
Ted W. Lieu
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Frank A. LoBiondo
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David Scott
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Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



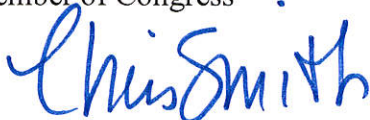
Sam Graves
Member of Congress



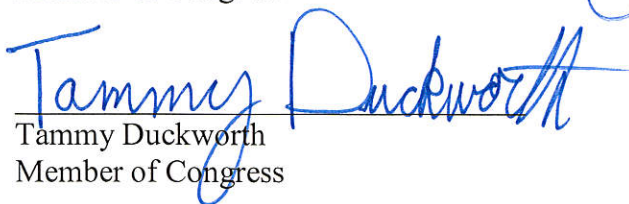
Richard M. Nolan
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Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



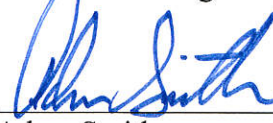
Christopher H. Smith
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Tammy Duckworth
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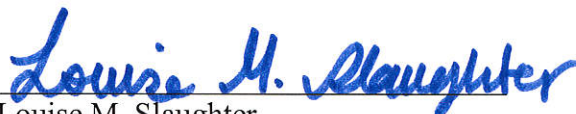
Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



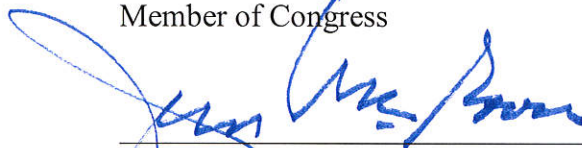
Adam Smith
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Katherine M. Clark
Member of Congress



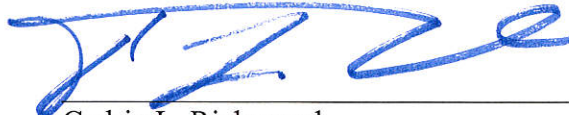
Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress



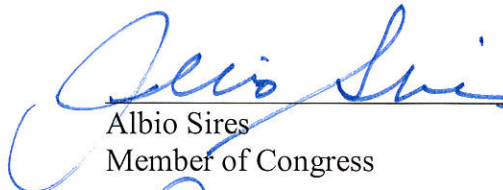
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



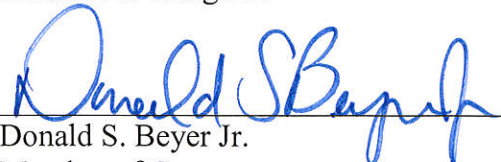
Sheila Jackson Lee
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Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress



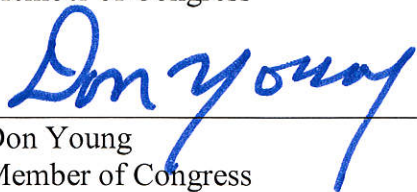
Albio Sires
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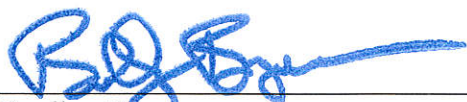
Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



Chris Collins
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Don Young
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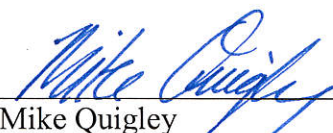
Bradley Byrne
Member of Congress



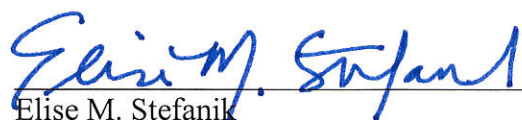
Robert J. Dold
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Carlos Curbelo
Member of Congress



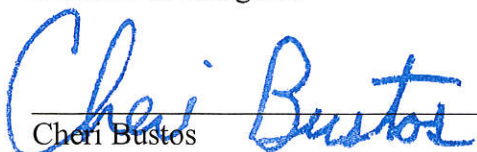
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Elise M. Stefanik
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Steve Chabot
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Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
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Brendan F. Boyle
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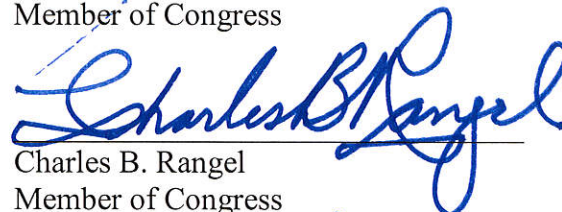
Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



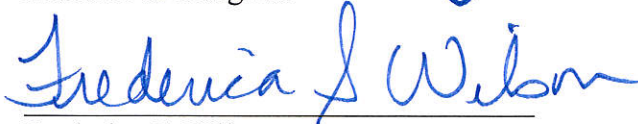
G. K. Butterfield
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Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress



Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



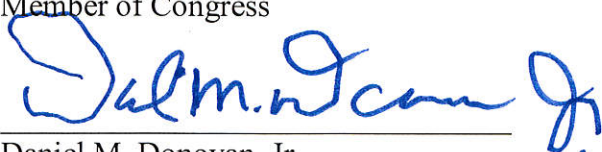
Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Glenn 'GT' Thompson
Member of Congress



Mike Coffman
Member of Congress



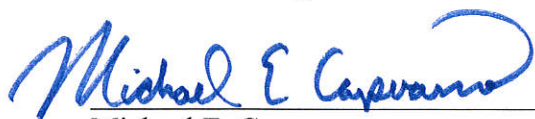
Daniel M. Donovan, Jr.
Member of Congress



Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress



Michael G. Fitzpatrick
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Michael E. Capuano
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Matt Salmon
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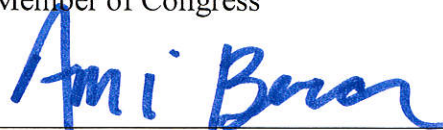
Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Chris Gibson
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Maxine Waters
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Ami Bera, M.D.
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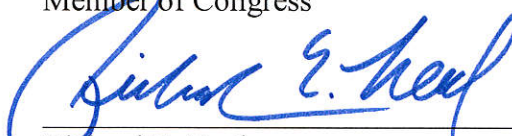
Beto O'Rourke
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Alma Adams
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Ron Kind
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Yvette D. Clarke
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Theodore E. Deutch
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John Katko
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
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Patrick E. Murphy
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Rubén Hinojosa
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