

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

April 19, 2016

The Honorable Paul D. Ryan  
Speaker of the House  
H-232, The Capitol  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
House Minority Leader  
H-204, The Capitol  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harold Rogers  
Chairman  
House Committee on Appropriations  
H-305, The Capitol  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

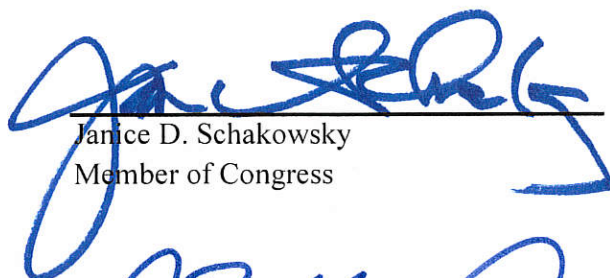
The Honorable Nita M. Lowey  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515


Dear Speaker Ryan, Leader Pelosi, Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Lowey:


We urge you to bring forward spending bills without divisive policy riders to fund the federal government in Fiscal Year (FY) 2017. At a time when our country is confronting a range of urgent challenges, it is critical that the House of Representatives works expeditiously to complete the appropriations process. We believe clean bills – free of controversial policy provisions – represent the best chance to advance appropriations legislation through “regular order” and avoid another harmful political impasse.


The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 provided a framework for the House to consider and pass individual appropriations bills for FY 2017. We are deeply concerned, however, that adding controversial policy provisions to these bills would derail the appropriations process and provoke a needless standoff that could undermine our national security and economic stability. Instead of reviving the threat of another government shutdown or forcing a continuing resolution, we encourage you to act in the best traditions of the House and the best interest of our country by advancing appropriations bills free of contentious and divisive policy provisions.

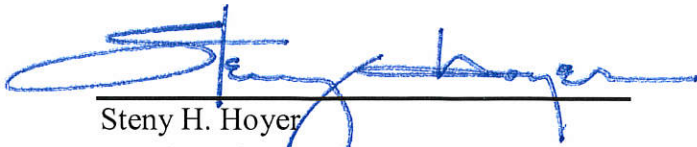
Sincerely,

  
Janice D. Schakowsky  
Member of Congress

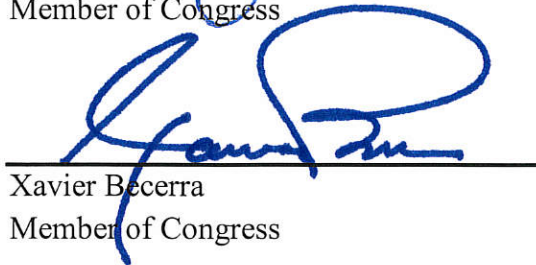
  
G.K. Butterfield  
Member of Congress

  
Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress

  
Doris O. Matsui  
Member of Congress



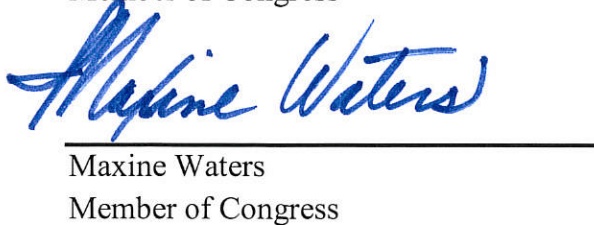
Steny H. Hoyer  
Member of Congress



Xavier Becerra  
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



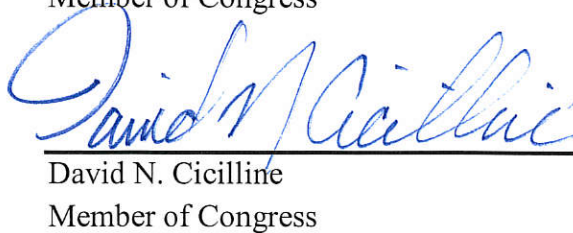
Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



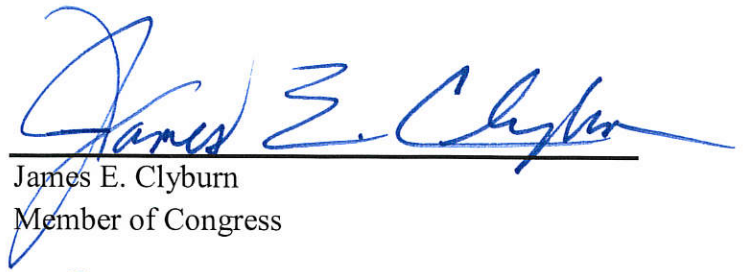
Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Brenda L. Lawrence  
Member of Congress



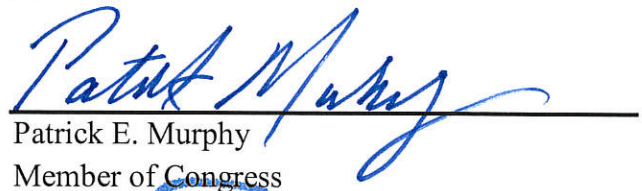
David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress



James E. Clyburn  
Member of Congress



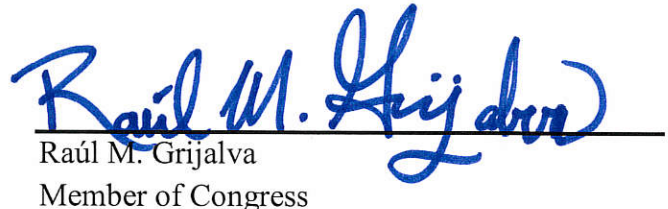
Joseph Crowley  
Member of Congress



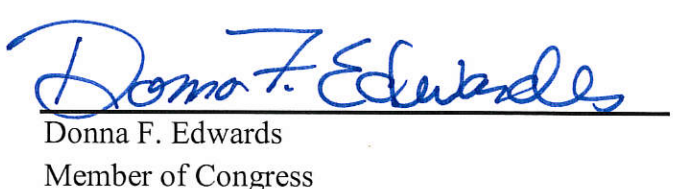
Patrick E. Murphy  
Member of Congress



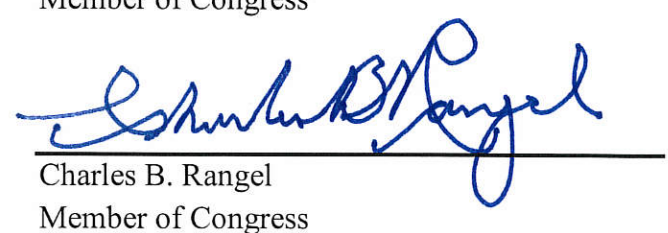
Ron Kind  
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



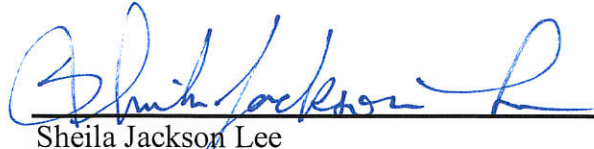
Donna F. Edwards  
Member of Congress



Charles B. Rangel  
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Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee  
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Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



Gene Green  
Member of Congress



Alan Grayson  
Member of Congress



Katherine M. Clark  
Member of Congress



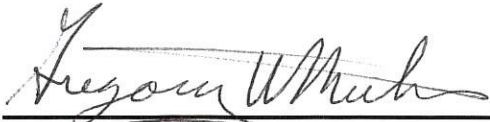
Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress



Ami Bera  
Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



Ted Lieu  
Member of Congress



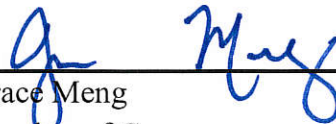
Ann Kirkpatrick  
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



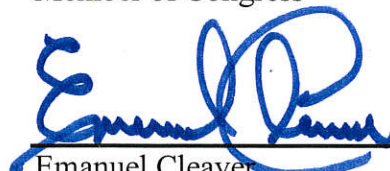
  
John Lewis  
Member of Congress


  
Luis V. Gutiérrez  
Member of Congress

  
Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress

  
Elijah E. Cummings  
Member of Congress

  
Alan S. Lowenthal  
Member of Congress

  
Emanuel Cleaver  
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John P. Sarbanes  
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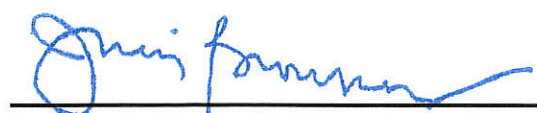
  
Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress

  
Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Member of Congress

  
Jim McDermott  
Member of Congress

  
Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress

  
Robert A. Brady  
Member of Congress

  
Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress

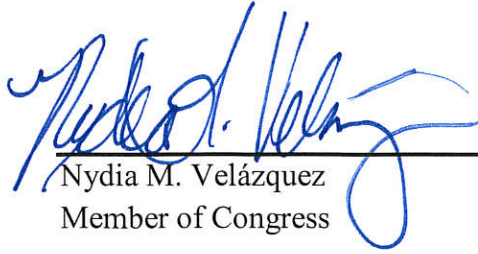
  
Paul Tonko  
Member of Congress

  
Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress

  
Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress



Filemon Vela  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress



Corrine Brown  
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison  
Member of Congress



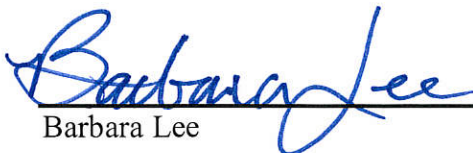
Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress



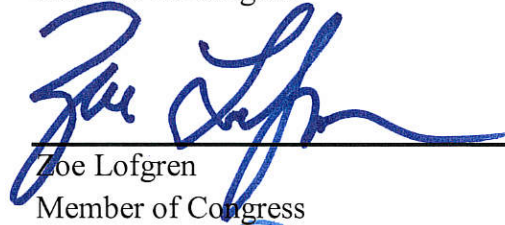
John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee  
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Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



Lois Capps  
Member of Congress



Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress




Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



Michael E. Capuano  
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



John C. Carney, Jr.  
Member of Congress



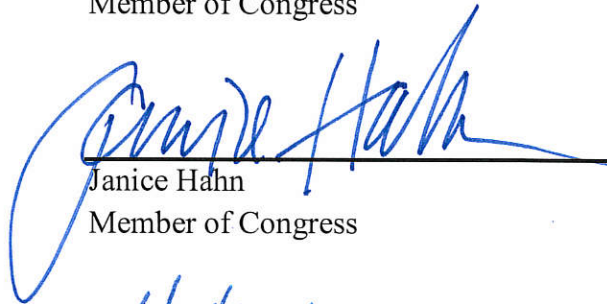
Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



Janice Hahn  
Member of Congress



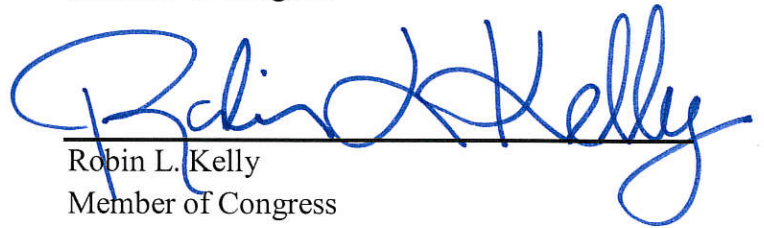
William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



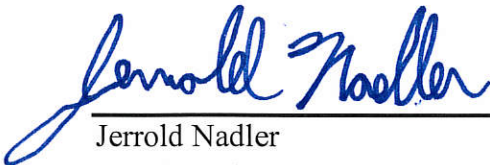
Matt Cartwright  
Member of Congress



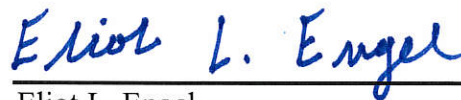
Marcia L. Fudge  
Member of Congress



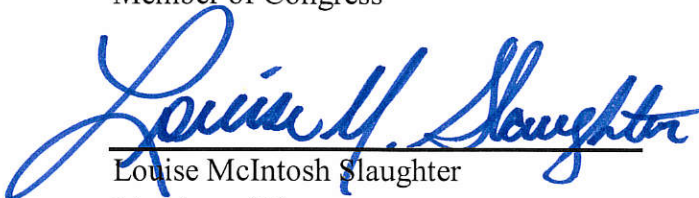
Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



Eliot L. Engel  
Member of Congress



Louise McIntosh Slaughter  
Member of Congress



Joseph P. Kennedy III  
Member of Congress

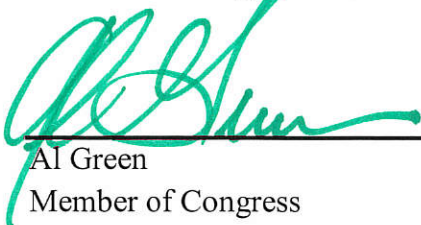




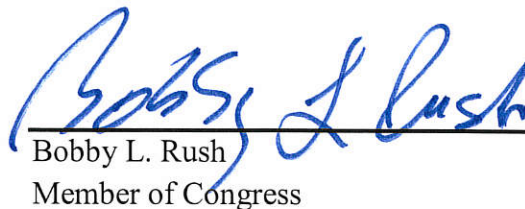
Gerald E. Connolly  
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Mark Takai  
Member of Congress



Al Green  
Member of Congress



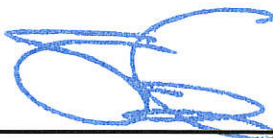
Bobby L. Rush  
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Kathy Castor  
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Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress



Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress



Beto O'Rourke  
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



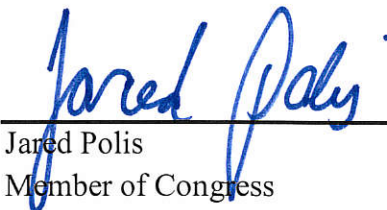
Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Theodore E. Deutch  
Member of Congress



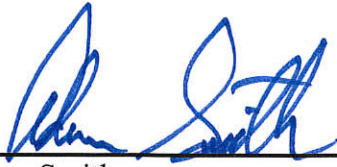
Donald Norcross  
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Jared Polis  
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



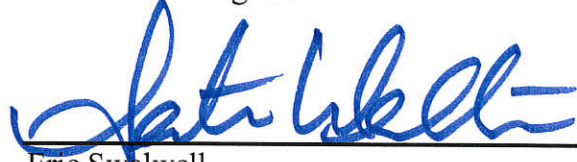
Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



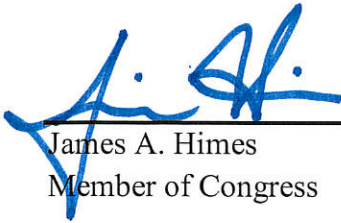
Ben Ray Luján  
Member of Congress



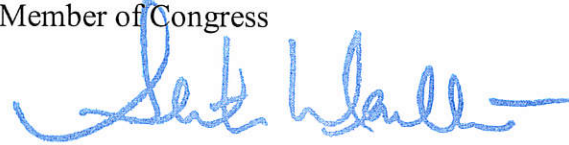
Peter A. DeFazio  
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress




James A. Himes  
Member of Congress



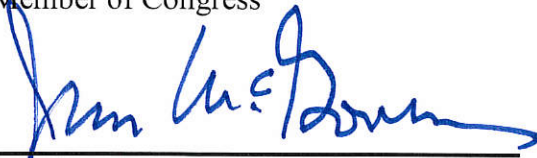
Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Member of Congress




Michael M. Honda  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



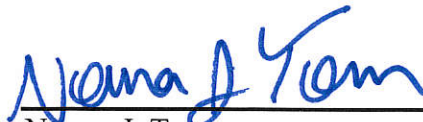
Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano  
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Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



John K. Delaney  
Member of Congress

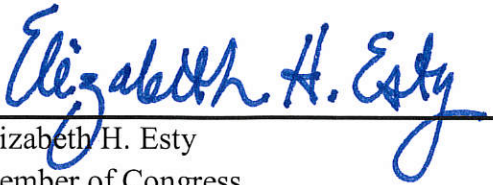




Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



Peter Welch  
Member of Congress



Elizabeth H. Esty  
Member of Congress



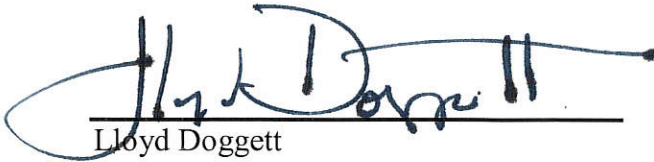
Ed Perlmutter  
Member of Congress



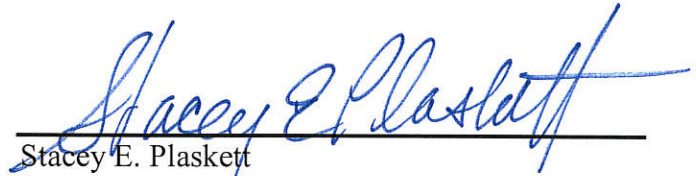
Tim Ryan  
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress



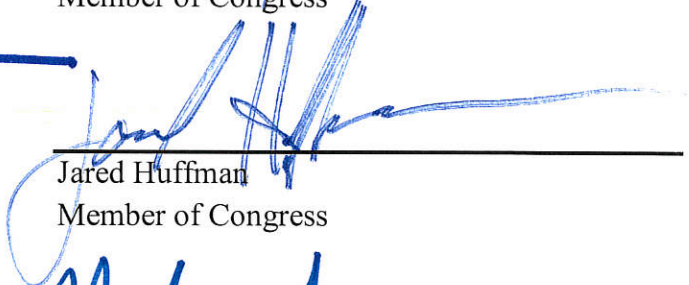
Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



Stacey E. Plaskett  
Member of Congress



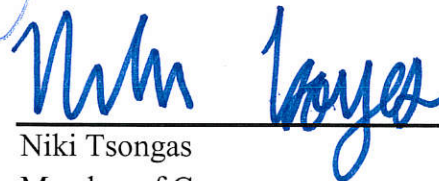
Ann M. Kuster  
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



James R. Langevin  
Member of Congress



Niki Tsongas  
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



Tammy Duckworth  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
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Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress



David E. Price  
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Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



Rubén Hinojosa  
Member of Congress



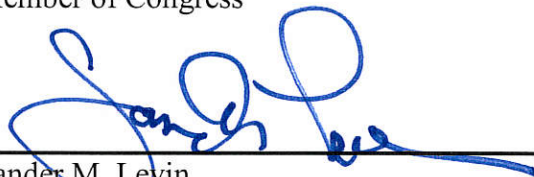
Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



Gwen Moore  
Member of Congress



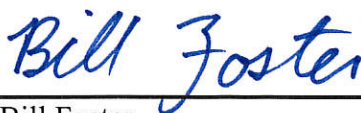
Sander M. Levin  
Member of Congress



Hakeem S. Jeffries  
Member of Congress



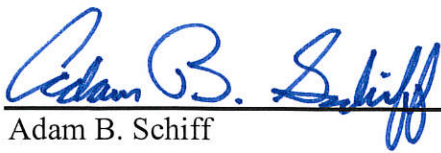
Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



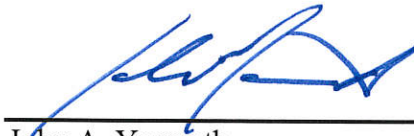
Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



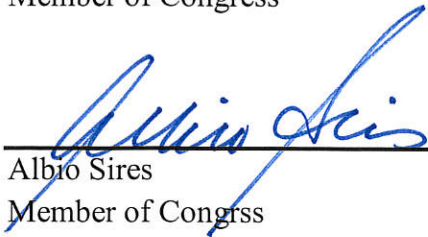
John A. Yarmuth  
Member of Congress



Cedric L. Richmond  
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Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



Albio Sires  
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Denny Heck  
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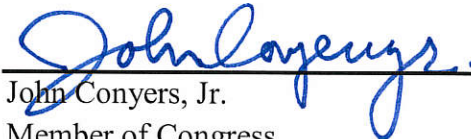
Steve Israel  
Member of Congress



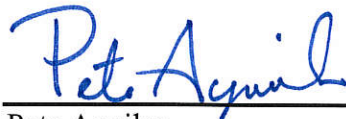
David Loebsack  
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André Carson  
Member of Congress



John Conyers, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Pete Aguilar  
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress




Wm. Lacy Clay  
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John B. Larson  
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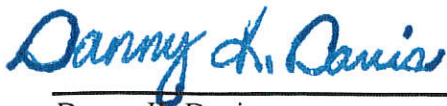


Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress

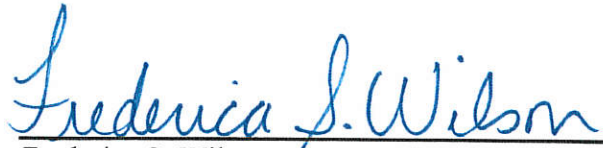


Alma S. Adams  
Member of Congress

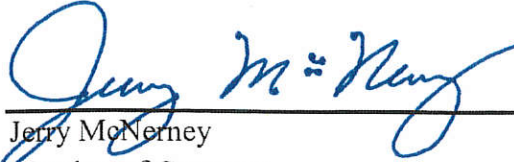




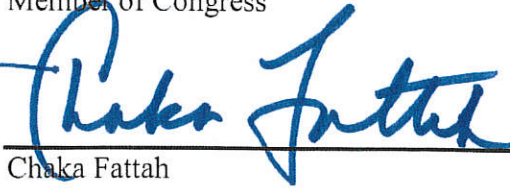
Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



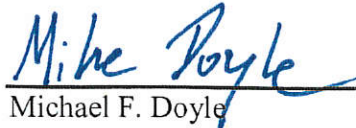
Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress



Chaka Fattah  
Member of Congress



Michael F. Doyle  
Member of Congress



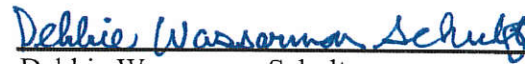
Daniel T. Kildee  
Member of Congress



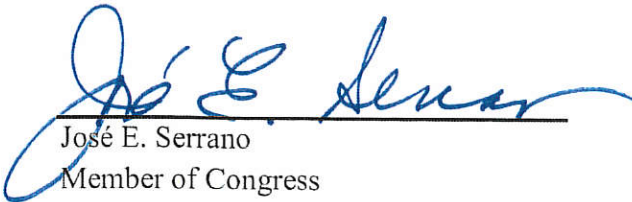
Susan A. Davis  
Member of Congress



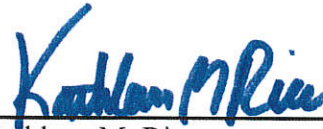
Brad Ashford  
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



José E. Serrano  
Member of Congress



Kathleen M. Rice  
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz  
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



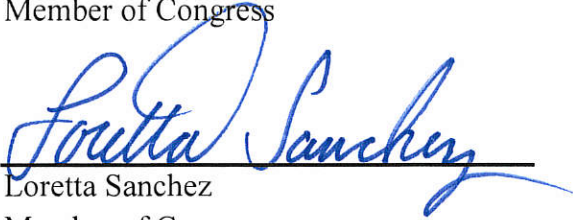
Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress



David Scott  
Member of Congress



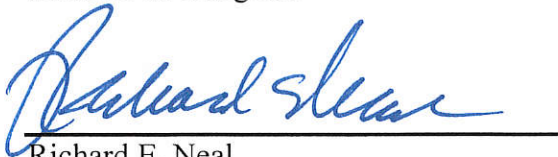
Kurt Schrader  
Member of Congress



Loretta Sanchez  
Member of Congress



Richard M. Nolan  
Member of Congress



Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress



Karen Bass  
Member of Congress



Gwen Graham  
Member of Congress