

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

March 16, 2018

The Honorable Hal Rogers  
Chairman

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and  
Related Programs

2358-B Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Ranking Member

Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and  
Related Programs

1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Lowey,

Thank you for your continued leadership to ensure U.S. foreign assistance has a focus on fighting extreme poverty and creating brighter futures for the world's children. We are writing to urge you to strongly support the Basic Education account in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill by providing robust funding for Basic Education programs, including robust funding for both bilateral education programs and the Global Partnership for Education. Through sufficient funding of global basic education, we can help reduce poverty through economic growth, build markets for U.S. exports, enhance stability and security, and promote effective development across sectors.

Globally, 264 million children and youth are out of school. Nearly 40 percent of the world's children of primary school age fail to acquire even basic literacy and numeracy skills. Tragically, children facing the greatest hardships- the poorest children, the displaced, children with disabilities, and girls, are least likely to have access to vital education. Over 75 million children are out of school due to conflict and crisis, leaving them vulnerable to exploitation as under-age laborers, child soldiers, and sex workers. Developing countries look to the United States for support, guidance, and strong leadership.

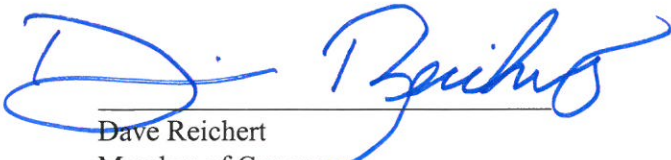
Since 2011, U.S. funding has supported 151 basic education programs, reaching over 50 million learners in 51 countries and trained over 460,000 teachers, annually. The current USAID Education Strategy focuses on improving reading skills for 100 million learners and supporting workforce development programs, so that students develop the skills necessary to contribute to

the global workforce and build self-reliance. In conflict and crisis situations, USAID's basic education programs provide students with a stabilizing influence, and foster the peace-building and conflict prevention skills that are vital to social rebuilding and global stability. By focusing on clear goals in strong bilateral programs, the U.S. is able to build relationships with other education actors around our common goals and share our unique technical knowledge and capabilities.


U.S. support of other donors and international organizations like the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) complements bilateral programs and leverages additional domestic resources from beneficiary countries. U.S. investment in GPE has contributed to enrolling 64 million more children in primary school and a 10 percent increase in primary school completion rates, with even higher rates for girls. Support for GPE's 2018-2020 strategy will enable over 80 countries to provide 25 million more children access to quality education.

As representatives of the U.S. taxpayer, we value the lasting impact made by global basic education programs and urge your Subcommittee to strongly support international basic education programs in the FY2019 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill. We greatly appreciate your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



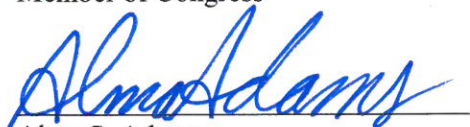
Dave Reichert  
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



Brendan Boyle  
Member of Congress



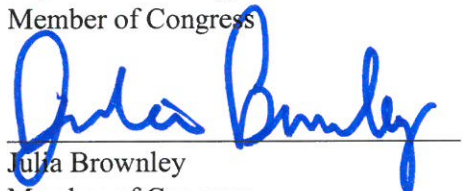
Alma S. Adams  
Member of Congress



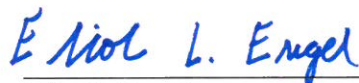
David E. Price  
Member of Congress



Elijah E. Cummings  
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



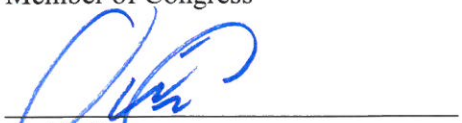
Eliot L. Engel  
Member of Congress



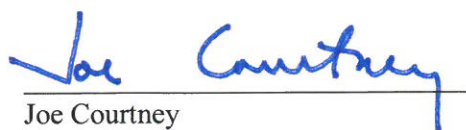
Suzan DelBene  
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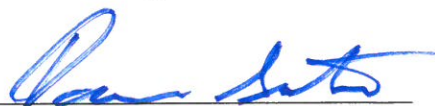
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André Carson  
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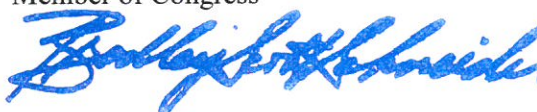
Joe Courtney  
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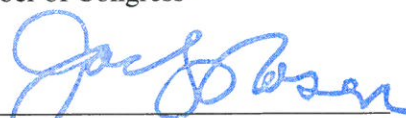
Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



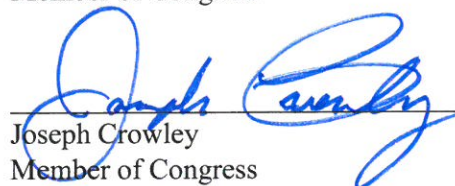
Dina Titus  
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Brad Schneider  
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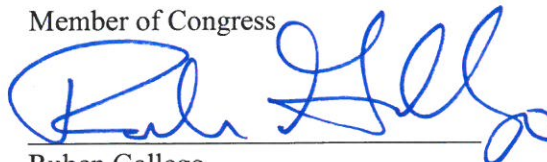
Jacky Rosen  
Member of Congress



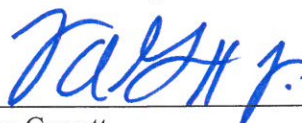
Joseph Crowley  
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Frederica Wilson  
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Ruben Gallego  
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Tom Garrett  
Member of Congress

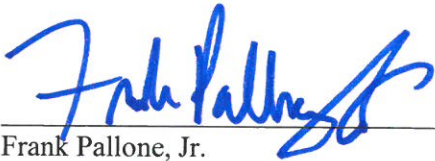




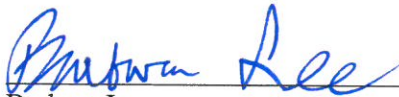
Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



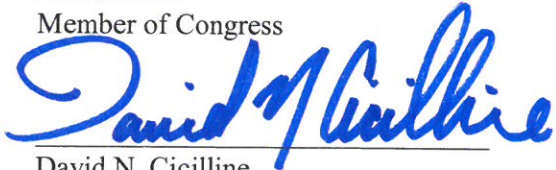
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
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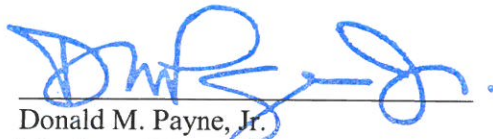
Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress



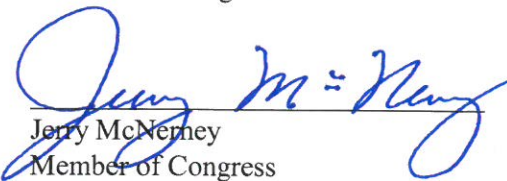
Barbara Lee  
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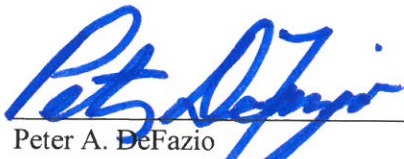
David N. Cicilline  
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Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
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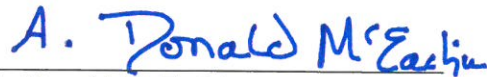
Jerry McNerney  
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Peter A. DeFazio  
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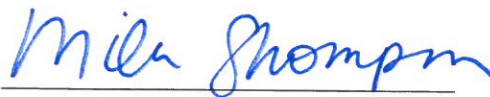
Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress



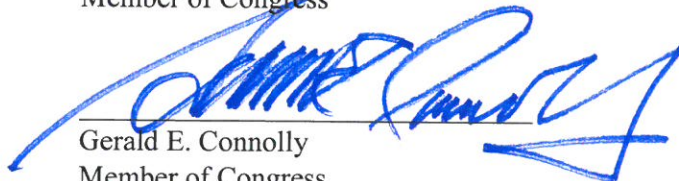
A. Donald McEachin  
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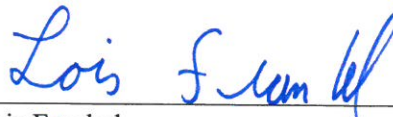
Al Green  
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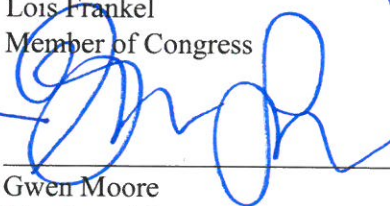
Mike Thompson  
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Gerald E. Connolly  
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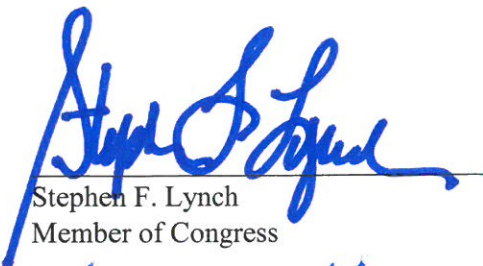
Lois Frankel  
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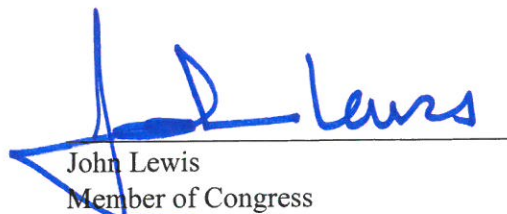


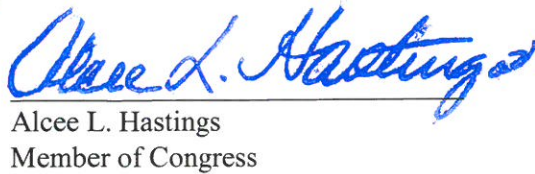
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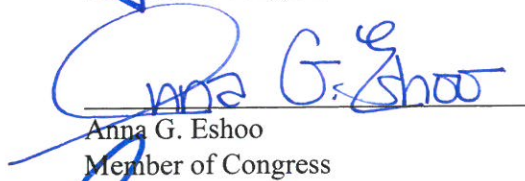


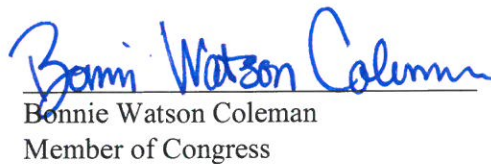
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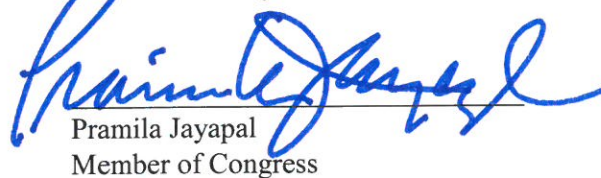
  
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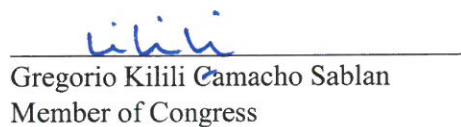
  
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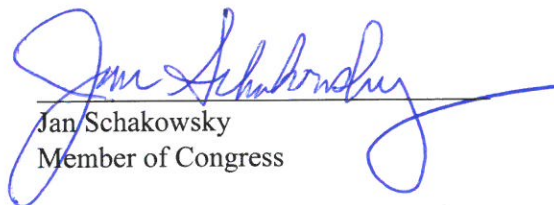
  
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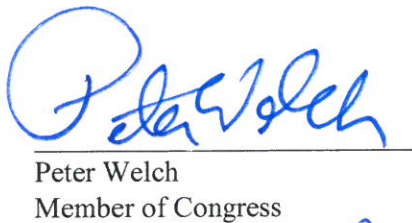
  
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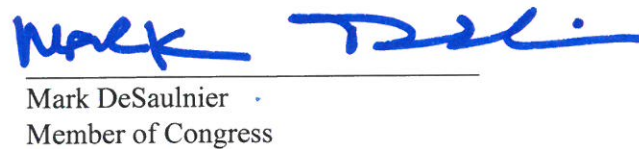
  
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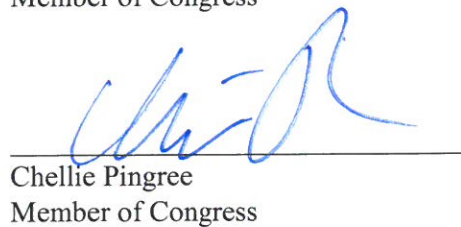
  
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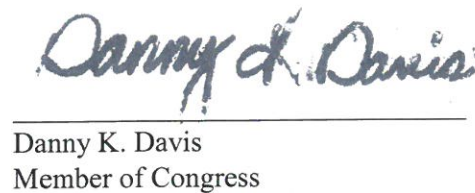
  
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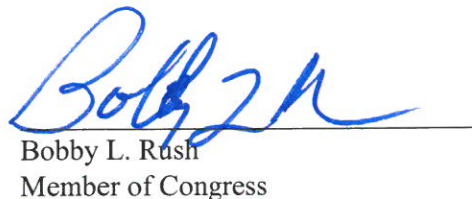
  
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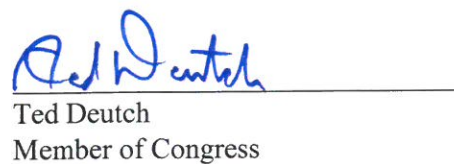
  
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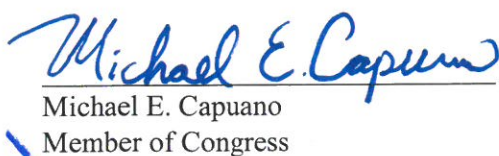
  
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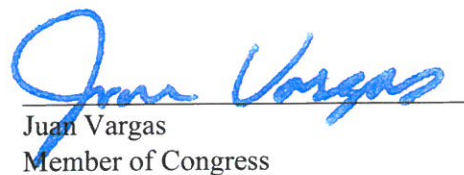
  
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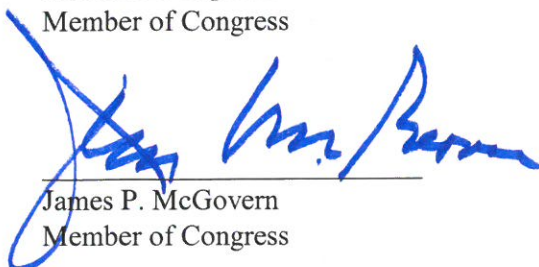
  
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Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress

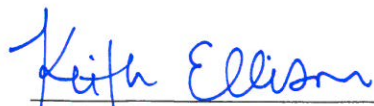
  
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Michael E. Capuano  
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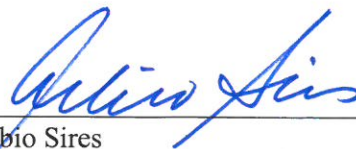
  
Juan Vargas  
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James P. McGovern  
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Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



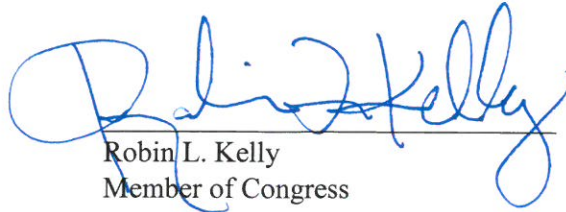
Keith Ellison  
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Albio Sires  
Member of Congress



Dave Loebsack  
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Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



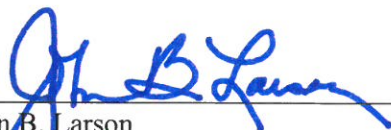
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Carol Shea-Porter  
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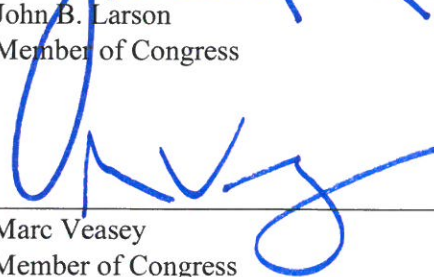
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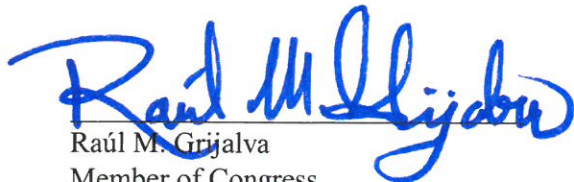
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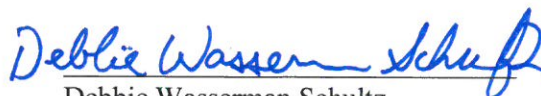
Ron Kind  
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Marc Veasey  
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress




Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress

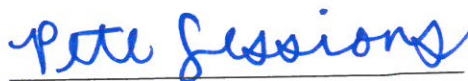


Beto O'Rourke  
Member of Congress

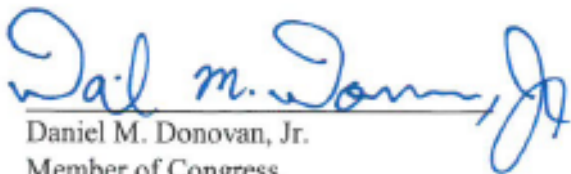




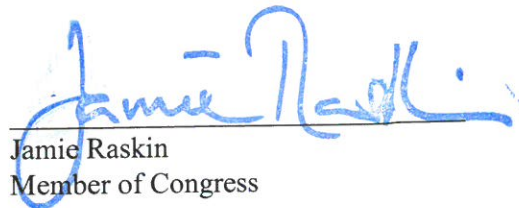
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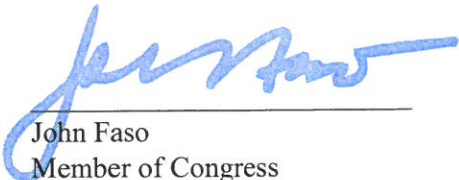
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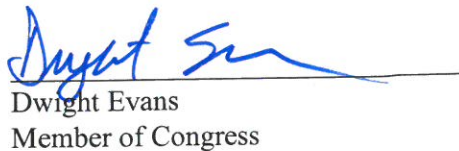
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Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



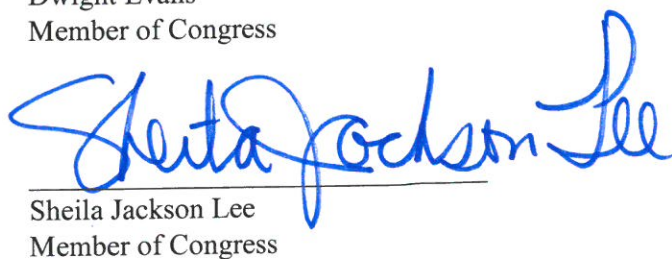
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Dwight Evans  
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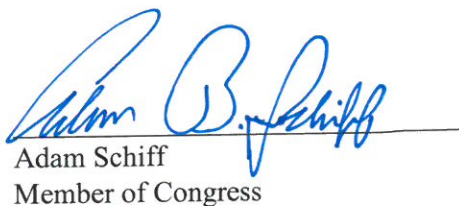
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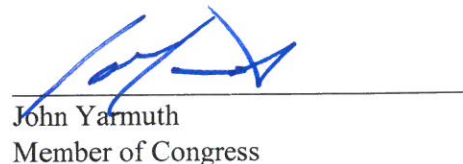
Sheila Jackson Lee  
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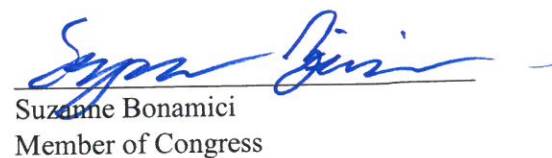
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Member of Congress



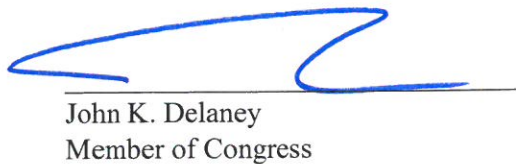
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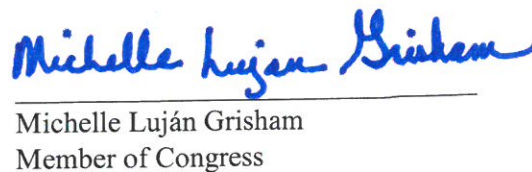
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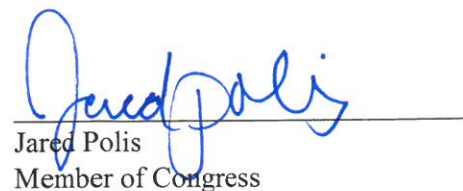
Suzanne Bonamici  
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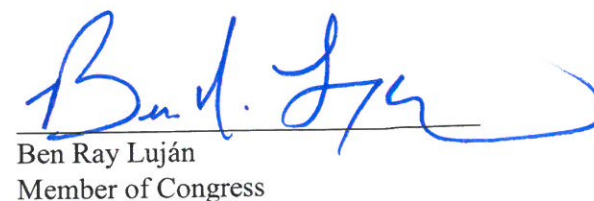
John K. Delaney  
Member of Congress



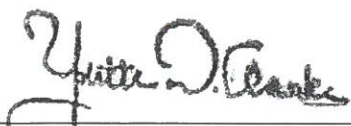
Michelle Luján Grisham  
Member of Congress



Jared Polis  
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Lujan  
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



Tulsi Gabbard  
Member of Congress



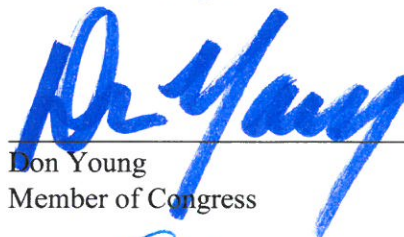
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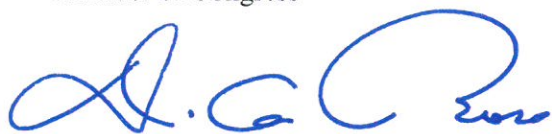
Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



Don Young  
Member of Congress



Dennis A. Ross  
Member of Congress



Charlie Crist  
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress



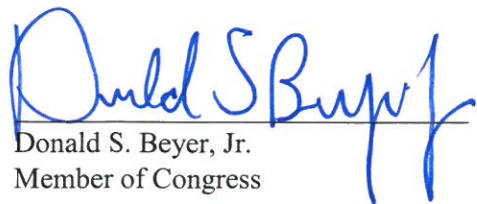
Anthony G. Brown  
Member of Congress



Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



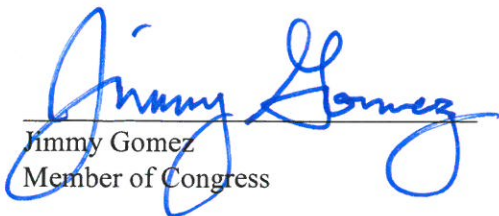
Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



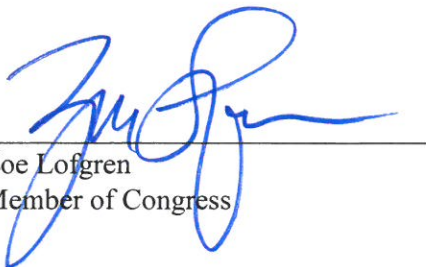
Donald S. Beyer, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Susan A. Davis  
Member of Congress

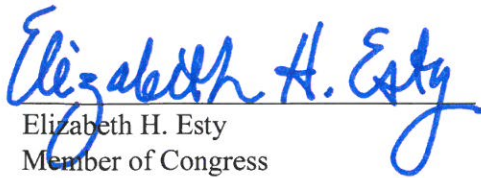


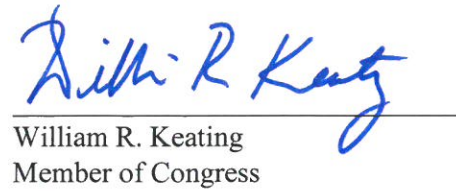
Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress

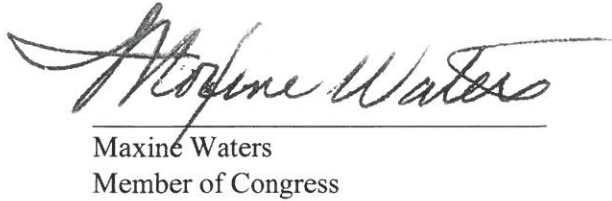


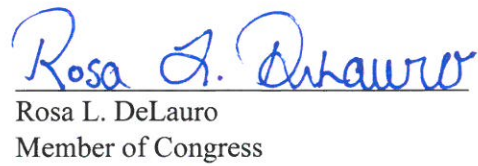
Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



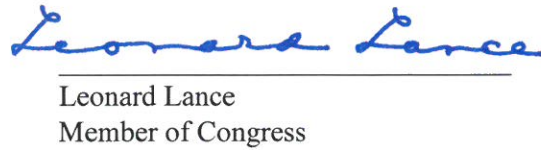
  
Elizabeth H. Esty  
Member of Congress

  
William R. Keating  
Member of Congress

  
Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress

  
Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress

  
Lucille Roybal-Allard  
Member of Congress

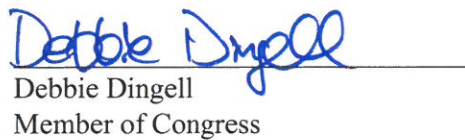
  
Leonard Lance  
Member of Congress

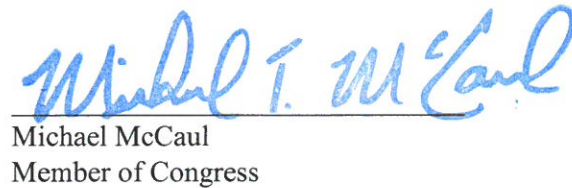
  
Jim Langevin  
Member of Congress

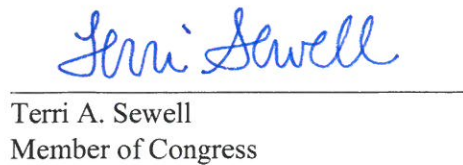
  
Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress

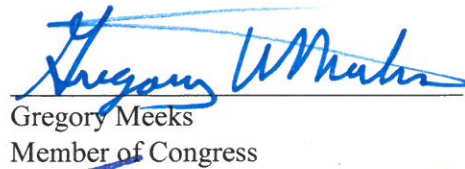
  
James A. Himes  
Member of Congress

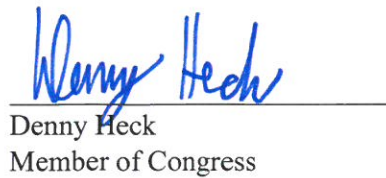
  
G. K. Butterfield  
Member of Congress

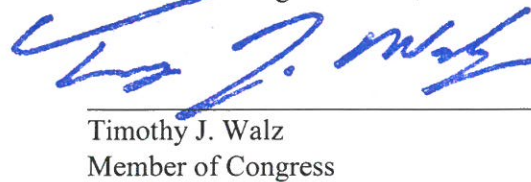
  
Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress

  
Michael McCaul  
Member of Congress

  
Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress

  
Gregory Meeks  
Member of Congress

  
Denny Heck  
Member of Congress

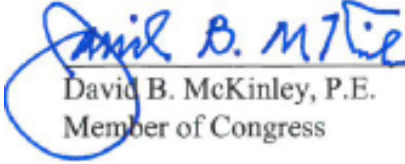
  
Timothy J. Walz  
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson  
Member of Congress



Tom MacArthur  
Member of Congress



David B. McKinley, P.E.  
Member of Congress



Karen Bass  
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress