

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

June 6, 2013

The Honorable Barack Obama  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

As members of Congress committed to reducing hunger, advancing food security, and improving health around the world, we urge your administration to maintain the strong U.S. commitment at the *Nutrition for Growth* summit on June 8<sup>th</sup> in London. Convened by the UK Government, this event presents a key opportunity for the U.S. to demonstrate its leadership on nutrition.

Malnutrition remains one of the world's most pressing but preventable problems. Globally, nearly 200 million children are chronically malnourished and suffer from serious, often irreversible, physical, and cognitive damage. For 2.5 million young children every year, malnutrition is a death sentence.

While the human and economic costs of under-nutrition are enormous, the solutions are basic, proven, and cost-effective. Nutrition programs – especially those that target women and children during the critical 1,000 day window from pregnancy to age two – offer one of the best returns on investment. Every \$1 invested in nutrition generates as much as \$138 in better health and increased productivity. In contrast, malnutrition can cost individuals up to 10 percent of their lifetime earnings and countries up to 11 percent of their annual GDP in lost productivity.

We capitalize on other global development investments when we address nutrition. An undernourished child has a diminished capacity to learn and work, therefore, malnourishment puts at risk the potential for continued progress in education, health, and economic growth around the world

On June 8th, global leaders – from donor and developing countries, foundations, civil society and the private sector – will gather at the *Nutrition for Growth* summit in advance of the G8 Summit to commit to tackling malnutrition. This is a unique opportunity to leverage U.S. leadership and accelerate global progress. We urge your administration to seize this opportunity by:

1. Pledging support for plans in poor countries to strengthen and expand nutrition interventions;
2. Developing a nutrition strategy to coordinate and align U.S. nutrition efforts;

3. Committing to transparency and accountability by reporting and tracking U.S. investments in nutrition across programs and accounts.

The U.S. has a strong, bipartisan history of supporting international nutrition and food security efforts. Such interventions strengthen national security and the security of our allies. We urge you to make the most of this opportunity by continuing the tradition of American leadership to fight malnutrition.

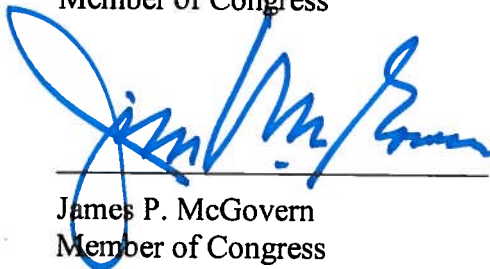
Sincerely,



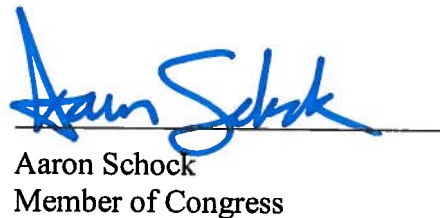
Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress




Dave Reichert  
Member of Congress



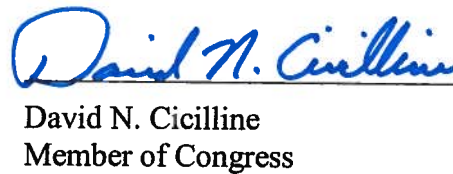
James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



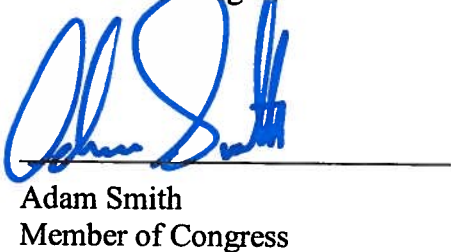
Aaron Schock  
Member of Congress



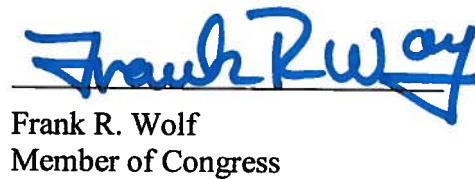
Gwen Moore  
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress



Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



Frank R. Wolf  
Member of Congress



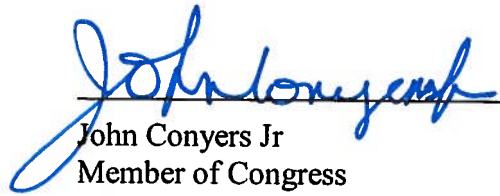
Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



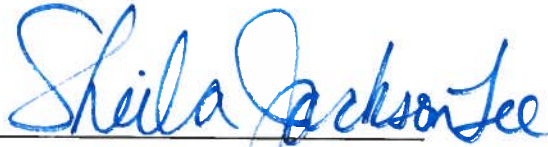
Lois Capps  
Member of Congress



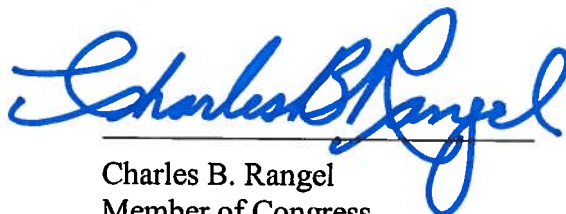
Richard M. Nolan  
Member of Congress



John Conyers Jr  
Member of Congress



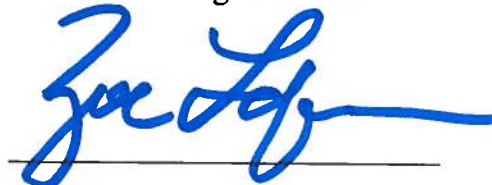
Shelia Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress



Charles B. Rangel  
Member of Congress



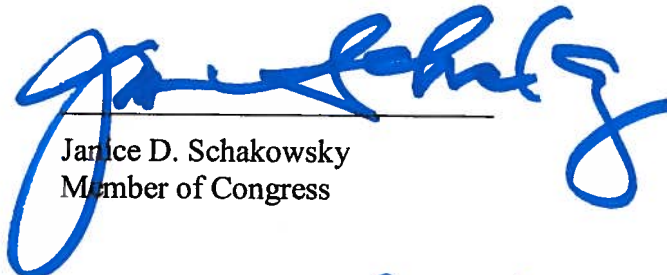
Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



Jim McDermott  
Member of Congress



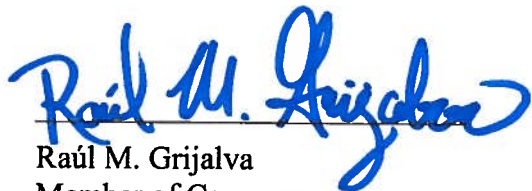
Jarice D. Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson  
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Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



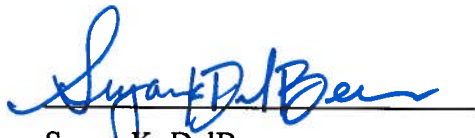
Donald M. Payne Jr.  
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Rosa L. DeLauro  
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Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



Rush Holt  
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Gerald E. Connolly  
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Patrick T. McHenry  
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Yvette D. Clarke  
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Michael T. McCaul  
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André Carson  
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Sam Farr  
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Derek Kilmer  
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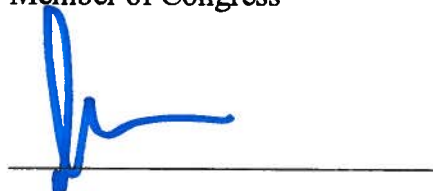
Corrine Brown  
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton  
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Dennis A. Ross  
Member of Congress



Ami Bera  
Member of Congress



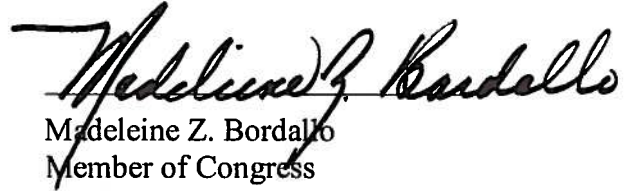
Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



Madeleine Z. Bordallo  
Member of Congress



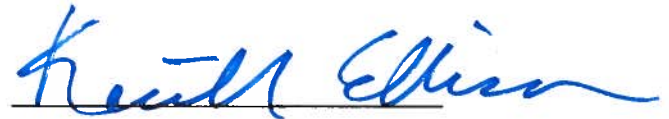
James A. Himes  
Member of Congress



Michael M. Honda  
Member of Congress



Peter A. DeFazio  
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison  
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Mark Meadows  
Member of Congress



Gene Green  
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



Albio Sires  
Member of Congress



Bruce L. Braley  
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Tim Ryan  
Member of Congress

  
Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress

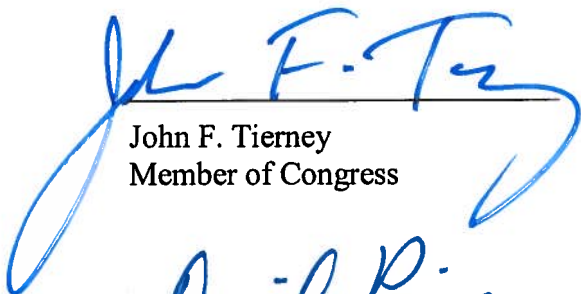
  
Denny Heck  
Member of Congress

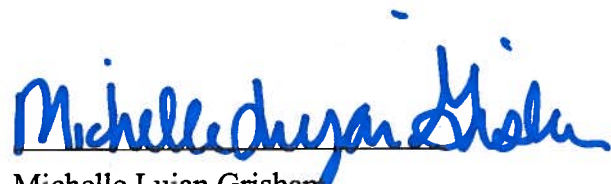
  
Jared Polis  
Member of Congress

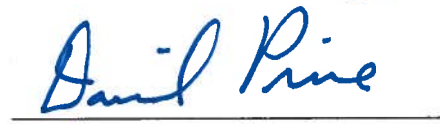
  
Gary C. Peters  
Member of Congress

  
Al Green  
Member of Congress

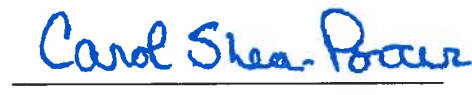
  
Robert E. Andrews  
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Michelle Lujan Grisham  
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Mike Quigley  
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Carol Shea-Porter  
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Lloyd Doggett  
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Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
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Robert C. Scott  
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*Danny K. Davis*

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*G.K. Butterfield*

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*Jerry McInerney*

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*Julia Brownley*

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*Donna F. Edwards*

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*Chaka Fattah*

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*Karen Bass*

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*Henry C. Johnson Jr.*

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*Debbie Wasserman Schultz*

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*Howard Coble*

Howard Coble  
Member of Congress

*Edward R. Royce*

Edward R. Royce  
Member of Congress



Ron Barber  
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress

CC. The Honorable John Kerry, Secretary of State  
The Honorable Rajiv Shah, USAID Administrator  
The Honorable Tom Vilsack, Secretary of Agriculture