

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

March 28, 2019

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Chairwoman  
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and  
Related Programs  
H-307, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hal Rogers  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations and  
Related Programs  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Lowey and Ranking Member Rogers:

Thank you for your steadfast commitment to fighting extreme poverty and supporting education for children in need around the world. We are writing to urge you to fully support the Basic Education account in the fiscal year 2020 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill by funding Basic Education programs, including bilateral education programs and funding for Global Partnership for Education and Education Cannot Wait.

We've made remarkable progress toward the goal of education for all. Since 2000, the total number of out-of-school children and youth has dropped by over 111 million and global primary school enrollment has grown to 91 percent. However, we have more work to do. 262 million children and youth are out of school globally and nearly 40 percent of primary school age children are not acquiring basic literacy and numeracy skills. In conflicts and crises, these numbers are even higher. Nearly one in four children living in areas affected by conflict are missing out on their education. Far too often, hardships such as poverty, displacement, disability, and discrimination inhibit children's ability to access a quality education.

U.S. bilateral basic education programs focus on increasing equitable access to education, providing early learners with foundational skills, and preparing youth for successful careers. With the support of your Subcommittee, USAID reached over 109 million learners in more than 50 countries from 2011-2017, including 22.6 million children living in conflict or crisis settings. Advancing inclusive quality education through U.S. bilateral programming is critical to achieve sustainable economic growth, poverty alleviation, social stability, and participatory democracy.

U.S. support for international organizations, including the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and Education Cannot Wait (ECW), complements our bilateral programs and leverages additional resources for this important work. U.S. investment in GPE has contributed to the enrollment of 64 million more children in primary school and a 10 percent increase in primary school completion rates. Additional funding for GPE will enable over 80 countries to provide 25 million more children access to quality education. U.S. investment in ECW has helped provide 765,000 children and youth in 19 crisis-affected countries with a quality education. Continued support for ECW will ensure that resources are available to provide 8.9 million children and youth in conflict and crisis settings with access to education by 2021.

We value the impact made by global basic education programs and urge the Subcommittee to fully fund the Basic Education account in the Fiscal Year 2020 State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill. We greatly appreciate your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



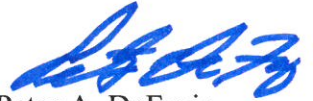
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
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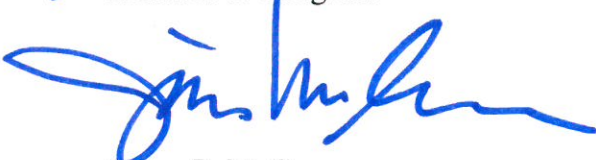
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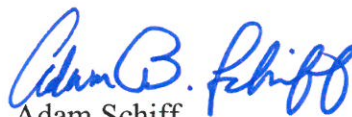
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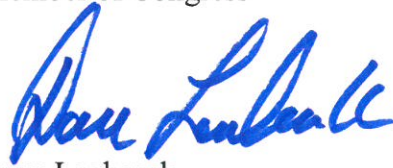
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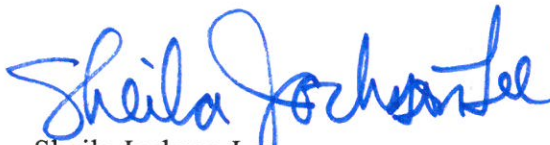
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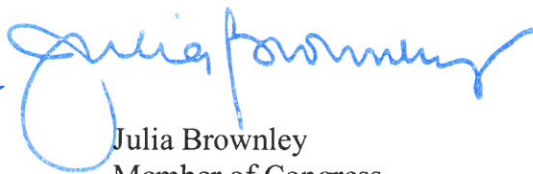
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Barbara Lee  
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Stacey Plaskett  
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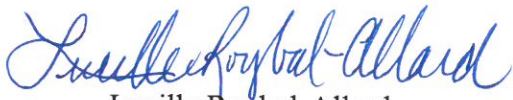
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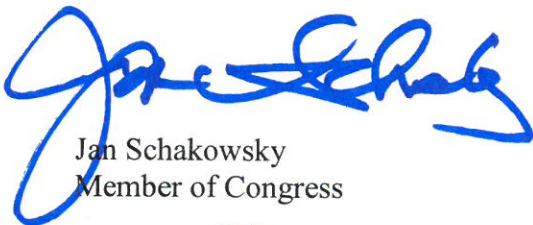
Chellie Pingree  
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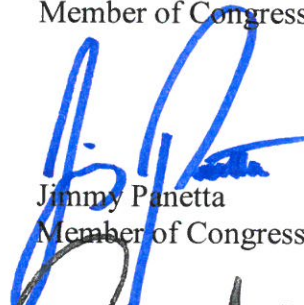
Jan Schakowsky  
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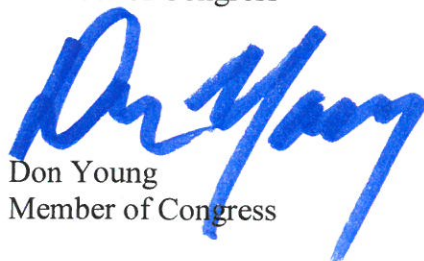
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Diana DeGette



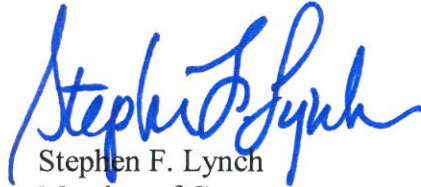
Denny Heck

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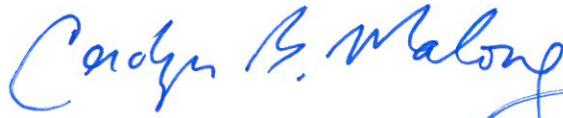


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Stephen F. Lynch  
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Carolyn B. Maloney  
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Lloyd Doggett  
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Ilhan Omar  
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Joe Courtney  
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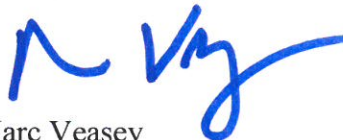
Adriano Espaillat  
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Alma Adams  
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Eddie Bernice Johnson  
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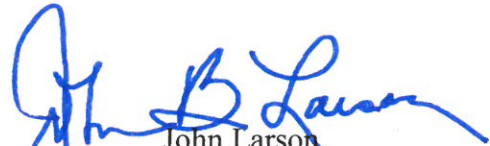
Marc Veasey  
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Debbie Mucarsel-Powell  
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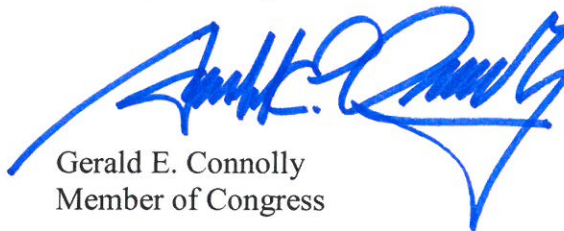
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Max Rose  
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John Katko  
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Gerald E. Connolly  
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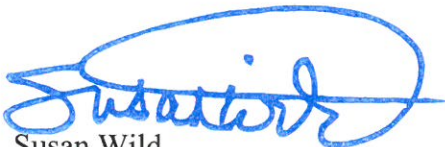
André Carson  
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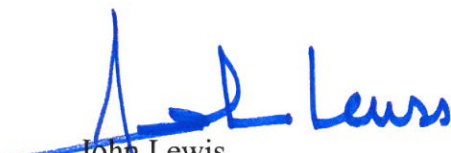
Albio Sires  
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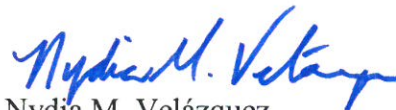
Susan Wild  
Member of Congress



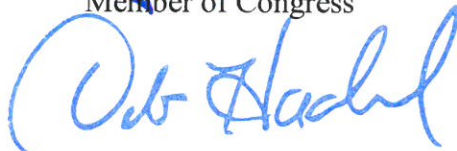
David N. Cicilline  
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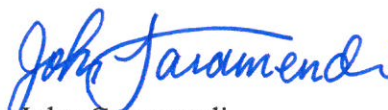
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Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



Deb Haaland  
Member of Congress




John Garamendi  
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Suzan DelBene  
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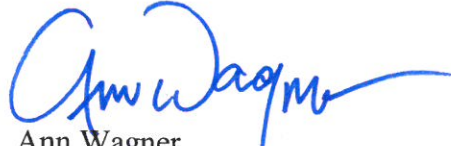


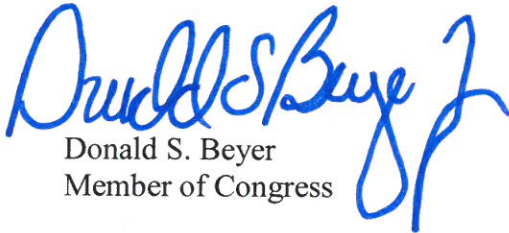
Ben Ray Luján  
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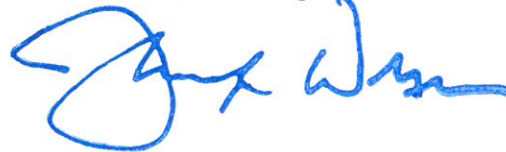
  
Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress

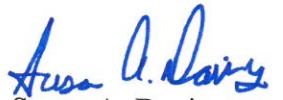
  
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Ann Wagner  
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Donald S. Beyer  
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Jennifer Wexton  
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Susan A. Davis  
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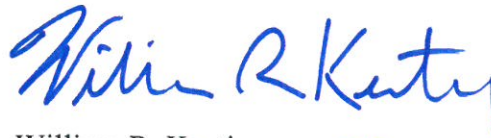
  
Al Green  
Member of Congress

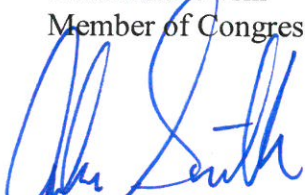
  
G. K. Butterfield  
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Darren Soto  
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Tom Malinowski  
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Grace Napolitano  
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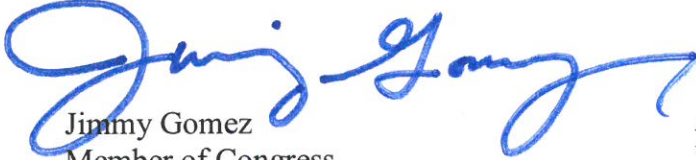
Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



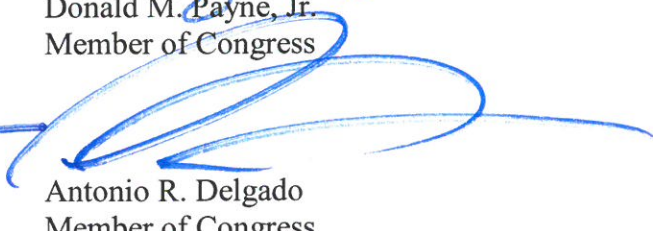
Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress



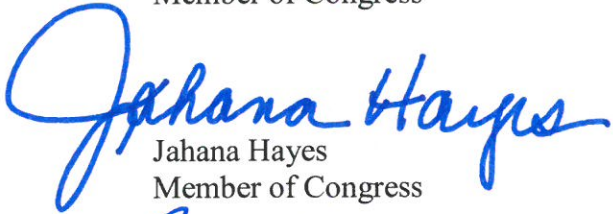
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Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez  
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Antonio R. Delgado  
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Terri A. Sewell  
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