

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 28, 2019

The Honorable Nita M. Lowey
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on State, Foreign
Operations, and Related Programs
Committee on Appropriations
HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hal Rogers
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on State, Foreign
Operations, and Related Programs
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Lowey, Ranking Member Granger, and Ranking Member Rogers:

As you consider the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill, we write to request a continuation of critical and timely support for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund). We are grateful for your past leadership in ensuring these programs continued to be robustly funded. We look to you again as PEPFAR and the Global Fund work towards the rapid acceleration of HIV prevention and treatment programs as global efforts focus on the goal of ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030.

U.S. leadership through PEPFAR and other bilateral investments, along with multilateral investments in the Global Fund over time have been transformative in fighting the deadly HIV/AIDS epidemic that was devastating countries, and the results are astounding. In 2018 PEPFAR supported life-saving antiretroviral treatment for 14.6 million people, including over 700,000 children. Through PEPFAR support, over 6.8 million orphans, vulnerable children and their caregivers accessed critical care and support services and since its inception more than 2.4 million new infections were averted in children.

By working hand in hand with countries and partners like PEPFAR, the Global Fund efforts have saved over 27 million lives since its inception in 2002. Its 2018 annual report shows that the Fund has supported 17.5 million people on anti-retroviral treatment for HIV, 5 million people treated for TB, and has distributed 197 million insecticide-treated bed nets for malaria prevention. To better tailor the HIV/AIDS programs to those most in need, allocations for prevention for key and vulnerable populations are up by nearly 30 percent for 2017-2019 over the previous funding period. Similarly, progress on the TB epidemic hinges on finding the over four million missing cases each year. The Global Fund has focused efforts in 13 countries that account for 75 percent of missing people with TB globally to find an additional 1.5 million cases by the end of 2019.

The co-epidemics must be battled together to bend the curve against the diseases and increased investments and efforts are necessary to end the epidemics. PEPFAR and the Global Fund are not only leading global efforts to improve HIV care, but they also enable countries to improve the overall health of their citizens by creating a lasting infrastructure that positions partner countries to respond to a range of health challenges and threats. PEPFAR is pushing countries towards controlling their epidemics and with its new investment case for the 2020-2022 replenishment, the Global Fund aims to save 16 million more lives.

Providing robust support for PEPFAR and the Global Fund bolsters the United States' leadership in the world and increases our ability to strengthen health systems that protecting virulent disease outbreaks, while making progress in combatting tuberculosis and malaria.

These successes are only possible because of longstanding bipartisan support for these programs. Congress's recent reauthorization of the PEPFAR program and the U.S. participation in the Global Fund reinforces a renewed commitment to ending AIDS as a global health threat. We once again look to your leadership in the fight against this deadly disease.

Thank you for considering our request and for your ongoing leadership in fighting HIV/AIDS.

Sincerely,



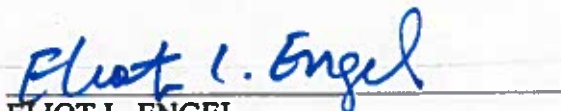
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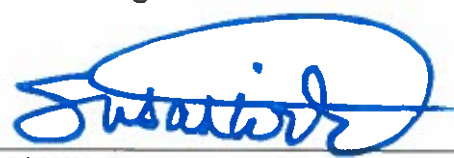
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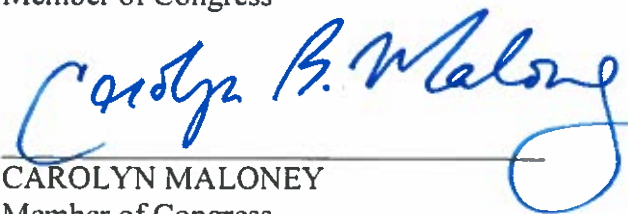
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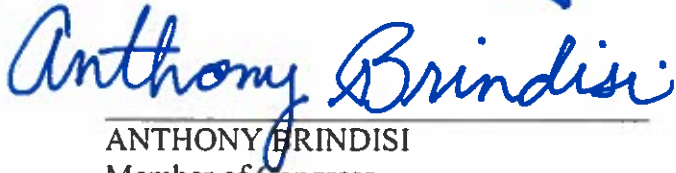
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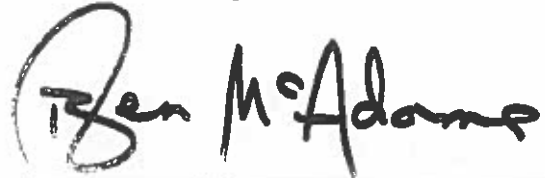
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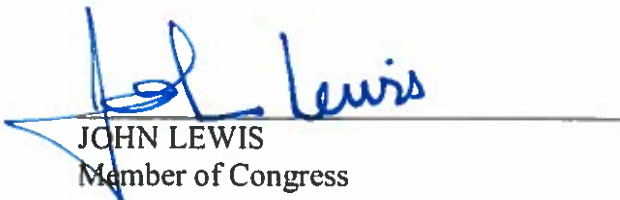
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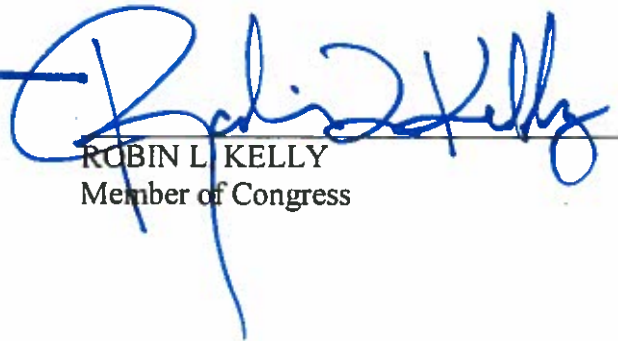
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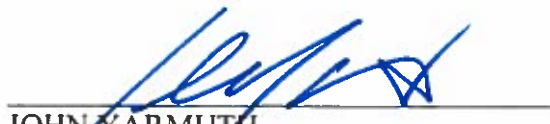
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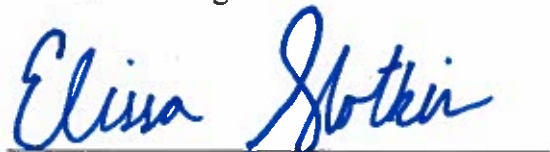

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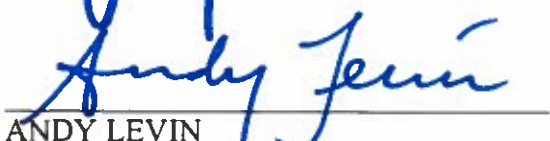

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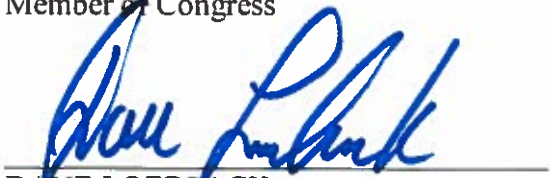

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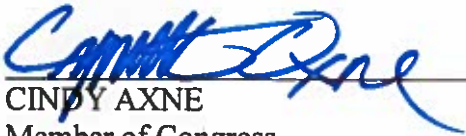
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