

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 10, 2016

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

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Lowey:

As the House works to craft appropriations legislation before the current continuing resolution expires on December 9, 2016, we write to express our strong support for increasing funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In any forthcoming appropriations legislation for FY 2017, we urge you to work with your Senate colleagues to ensure NIH receives a funding level of no less than \$34 billion, equal to the level approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee, in order to maintain America's role as a global leader in biomedical research and groundbreaking medical discoveries.

On a bipartisan basis, members of the 114th Congress have repeatedly demonstrated our clear and unambiguous support for strengthening investments in NIH. We know this funding helps us push the boundaries of scientific knowledge, advance promising research and offer hope to millions of Americans suffering from heartbreaking diseases. Federal funding for this life-saving research is also a key economic driver for our nation, supporting more than 400,000 jobs and generating over \$60 billion in new economic activity. It delivers a significant return on our investment today and for generations to come.

While the increase included in last year's omnibus appropriations bill was an important step, we remain concerned that federal investments in biomedical research have failed to keep pace with inflation over the last 13 years. By failing to hold NIH funding constant with other rising costs, Congress has allowed the agency's purchasing power to diminish by nearly 20 percent since 2003. As other countries' investments in research continue to grow at a far faster pace than those made by the U.S., it is more critical than ever that we act to reverse this trend.

Insufficient funding for NIH has a serious, wide-ranging impact on our nation's health and our capacity for medical innovation in the 21st century. If we are serious about breaking new ground in our understanding of complex and life-threatening conditions, then it is absolutely essential we increase funding for NIH. Simply put, we cannot hope to accelerate the development of new cures, therapies and vaccines without additional resources for research. Particularly given the significant investments in NIH approved earlier this year by the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, we feel strongly that now is the time to recommit to America's long-term health and prosperity.

While we understand the difficult fiscal challenges you face, we urge you to prioritize the important role NIH plays in medical innovation and economic growth by funding the agency at an annual level of no less than \$34 billion. Thank you for your consideration of this request, which will make a meaningful difference in the lives of millions of Americans.

Sincerely,



Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



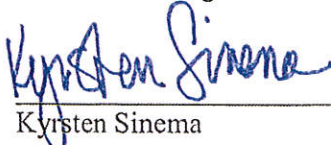
Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Patrick Meehan
Member of Congress



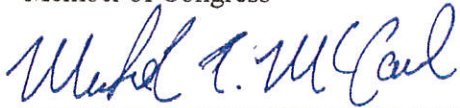
Dana Rohrabacher
Member of Congress



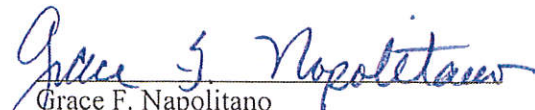
Kyrsten Sinema
Member of Congress



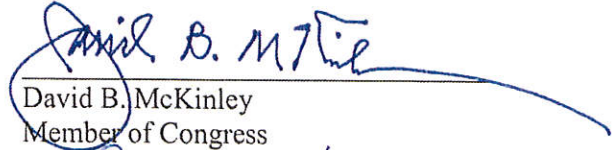
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



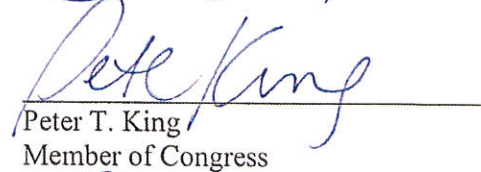
Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress



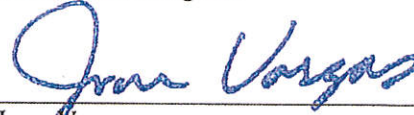
Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress



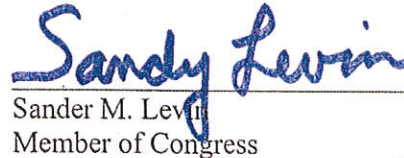
David B. McKinley
Member of Congress



Peter T. King
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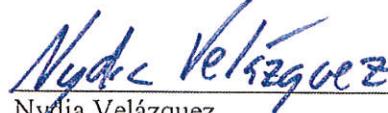
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



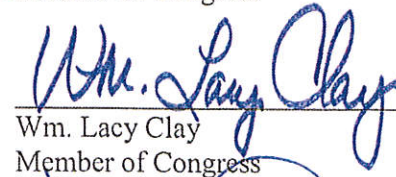
Sander M. Levin
Member of Congress



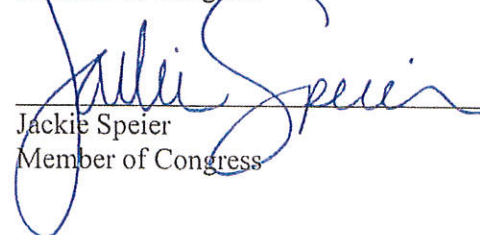
Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



Nydia Velázquez
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Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress



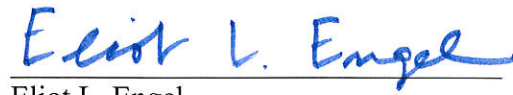
Jackie Speier
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Andy Barr
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Timothy J. Walz
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Michelle Lujan Grisham
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Scott H. Peters
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Eliot L. Engel
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André Carson
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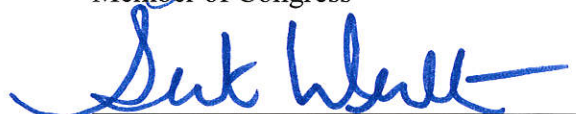

Brad Ashford
Member of Congress

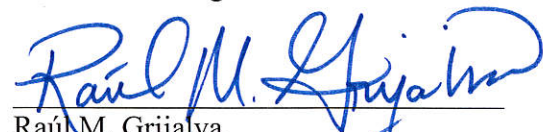

Ben Ray Luján
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Ann McLane Kuster
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Elijah E. Cummings
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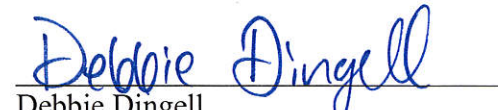

Denny Heck
Member of Congress

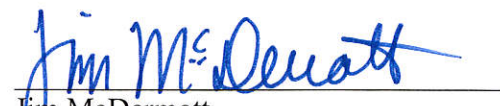

Seth Moulton
Member of Congress

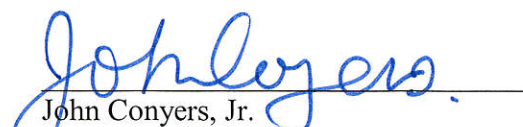

Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress


Robert A. Brady
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress

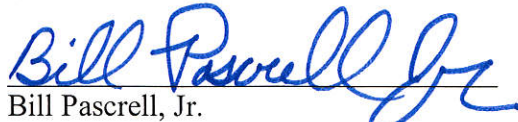

Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress

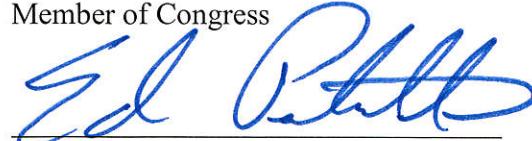

Jim McDermott
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John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress


James R. Langevin
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Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress

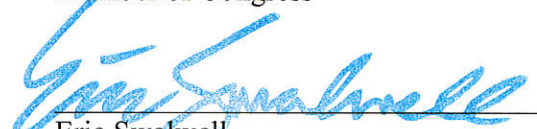

Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress

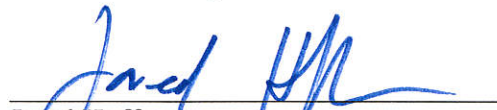

Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress

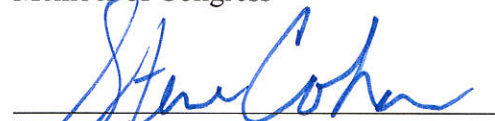

Eleanor Holmes Norton
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Michael M. Honda
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Rick Larsen
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Eric Swalwell
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Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

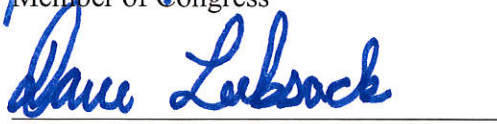

Steve Cohen
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Zoe Lofgren
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Tulsi Gabbard

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Norma J. Torres
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Peter Welch
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Joyce Beatty

Joyce Beatty
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Anna G. Eshoo
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Debbie Wasserman Schultz

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John Lewis

John Lewis
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Donald M. Payne, Jr.

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Member of Congress

Jared Polis

Jared Polis
Member of Congress

David N. Cicilline

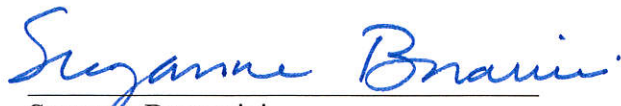
David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



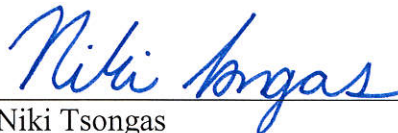
Jim Cooper
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Kurt Schrader
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Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



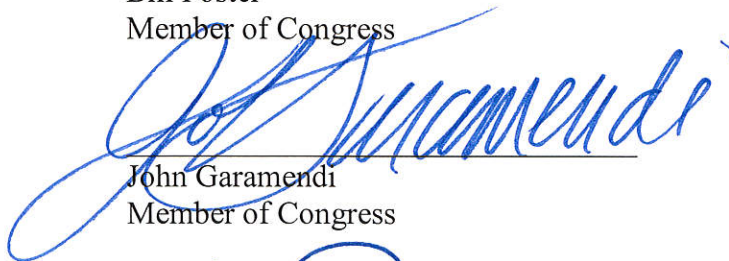
John B. Larson
Member of Congress



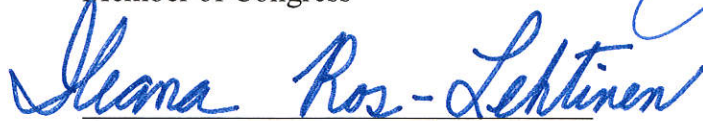
Bill Foster
Member of Congress



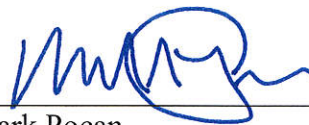
Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



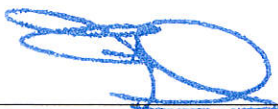
John Garamendi
Member of Congress




Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



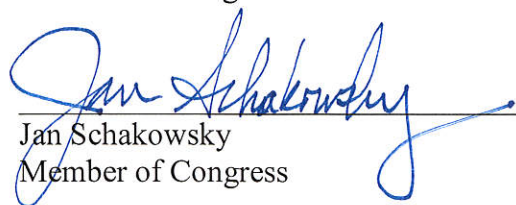
Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



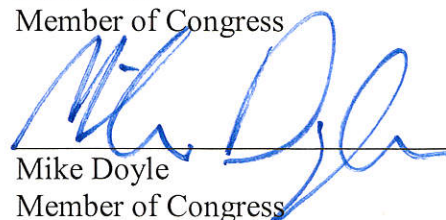
Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



Karen Bass
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress



Mike Doyle
Member of Congress



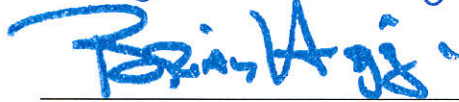
Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



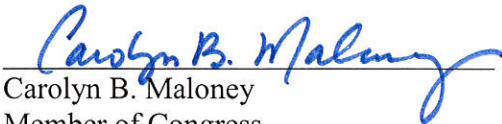
Grace Meng
Member of Congress



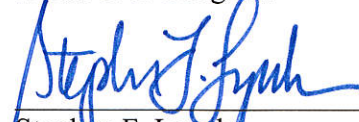
Hakeem S. Jeffries
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



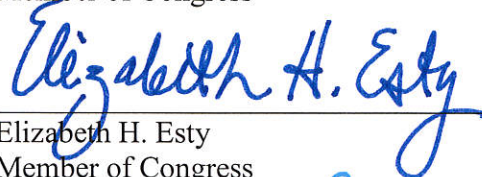
Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



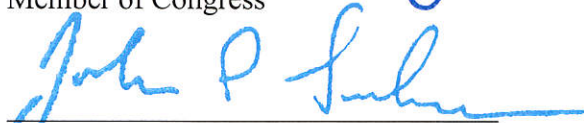
William R. Keating
Member of Congress



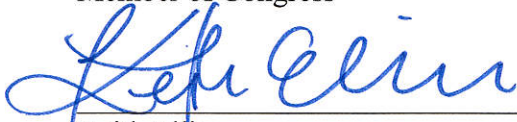
Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress



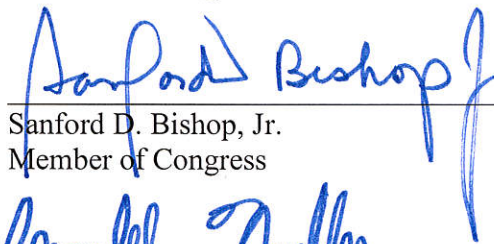
Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



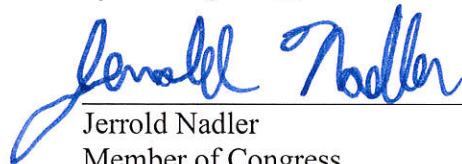
Keith Ellison
Member of Congress



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



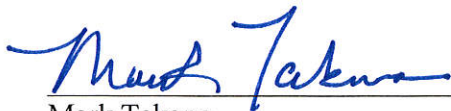
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



Brenda L. Lawrence
Member of Congress



Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



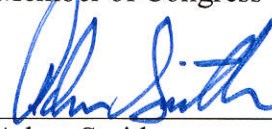
Frank A. LoBiondo
Member of Congress



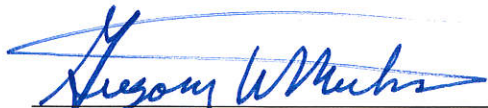
Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



David Scott
Member of Congress



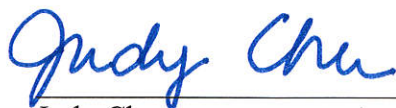
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress



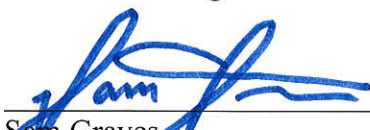
Katherine M. Clark
Member of Congress



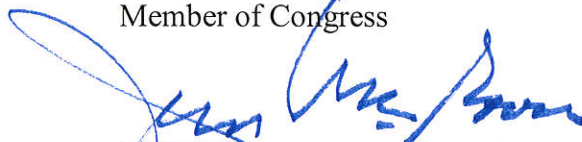
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress



Sam Graves
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Richard M. Nolan
Member of Congress



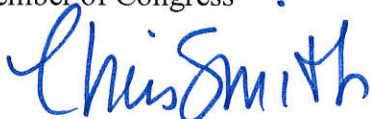
Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



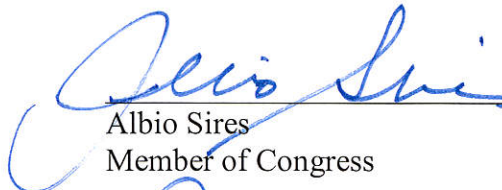
Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



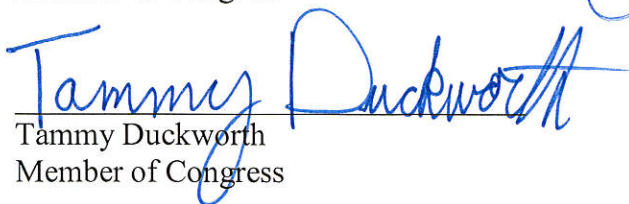
Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress



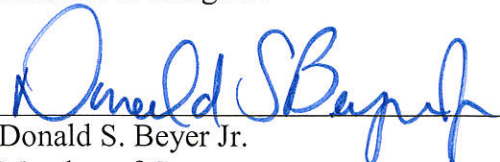
Christopher H. Smith
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Albio Sires
Member of Congress



Tammy Duckworth
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress

Chris Collins

Chris Collins
Member of Congress

Don Young

Don Young
Member of Congress

Bradley Byrne

Bradley Byrne
Member of Congress

Robert J. Dold

Robert J. Dold
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Carlos Curbelo

Carlos Curbelo
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Mike Quigley

Mike Quigley
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Elise M. Stefanik

Elise M. Stefanik
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Steve Chabot

Steve Chabot
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Cheri Bustos

Cheri Bustos
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Joe Courtney

Joe Courtney
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Brendan F. Boyle

Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress

Joaquin Castro

Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress

G. K. Butterfield

G. K. Butterfield
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Kathleen M. Rice

Kathleen M. Rice
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Charles B. Rangel

Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress

Frederica S. Wilson

Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress

Chellie Pingree

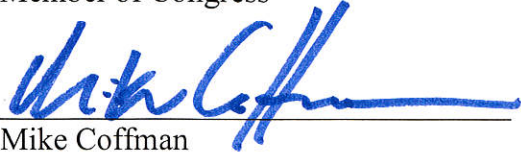
Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

Emanuel Cleaver, II

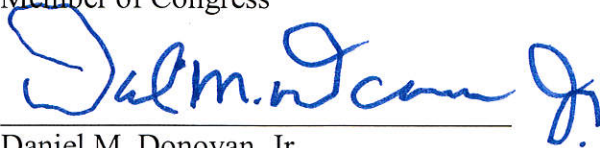
Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Glenn 'GT' Thompson
Member of Congress



Mike Coffman
Member of Congress



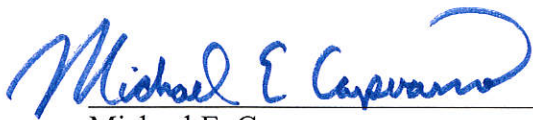
Daniel M. Donovan, Jr.
Member of Congress



Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress



Michael G. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress




Matt Salmon
Member of Congress



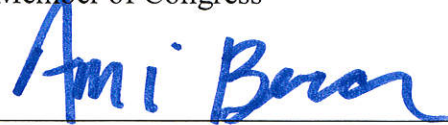
Linda T. Sánchez
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Chris Gibson
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



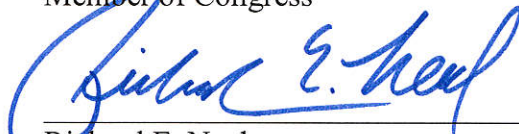
Beto O'Rourke
Member of Congress



Alma Adams
Member of Congress



Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress



Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress



Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



Theodore E. Deutch
Member of Congress



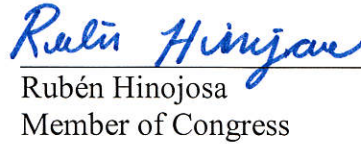
John Katko
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress



Patrick E. Murphy
Member of Congress



Rubén Hinojosa
Member of Congress