

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 16, 2018

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment & Related Agencies
B-308 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment & Related Agencies
2256 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

We are writing to thank the Subcommittee for its past support of funding for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and respectfully request your support of a funding level of at least \$155 million in the Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) Interior Appropriations bill.

As you know, NEH is the main source of federal support for humanities research, teaching, preservation, public programming, and related activities in the U.S., providing competitive grant funding for research and scholarship in history, literature, foreign languages, and other fields that empower individuals with critical perspective and knowledge. Furthermore, NEH funding allocated through state humanities councils strengthens the cultural infrastructure of local communities in every state and territory throughout the nation.

Additionally, investment in the humanities advances vital national interests by fostering a globally competitive workforce, strengthening civic engagement, preserving our cultural heritage, and protecting our national security. As our world becomes increasingly more interconnected, building a solid foundation in the humanities becomes even more critical, which is why the majority of our CIA analysts, State Department officials and staff members and diplomats at embassies across the globe are graduates of the humanities – as are leaders ranging from the late Steve Jobs to former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Martin Dempsey.

NEH has been an excellent steward of its annual federal appropriation, successfully leveraging more than \$4.8 billion in non-federal support (adjusted for inflation) between 1965 and 2014. NEH has also shown an ability to rapidly respond to conditions on the ground, providing \$1 million in emergency grants to assist local organizations in stabilizing and recovering historical collections following the devastation from Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria. Currently, demand for humanities project support far exceeds funding availability, and non-federal support for the humanities has declined in recent years. As billions of dollars are rightfully invested in research, education, science, and technology, we must continue to prioritize robust federal investment in the humanities.

We understand the many difficult choices your Subcommittee faces in constructing its FY 2019 bill, but we believe that strong federal investments in the humanities are crucial for preserving America's place as a world leader in education and innovation as well as provide our nation's citizenry and workforce with the foundation necessary to tackle the challenges of today's globalized world. We appreciate your past support of NEH and strongly urge your support for this request.

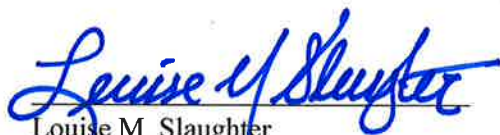
Sincerely,



David Price
Member of Congress



Leonard Lance
Member of Congress



Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress



Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress



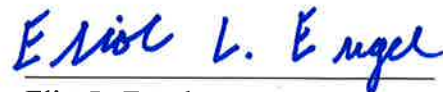
Jackie Speier
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Theodore E. Deutch
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Steve Cohen
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Christopher H. Smith
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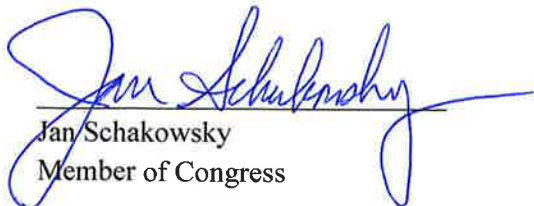
Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress



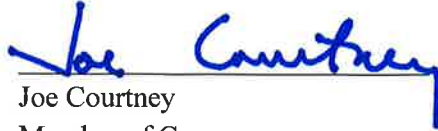
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Richard M. Nolan
Member of Congress



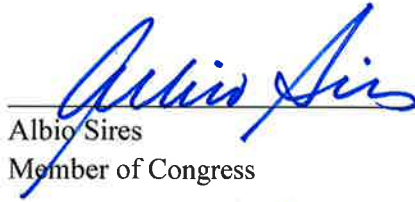
Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



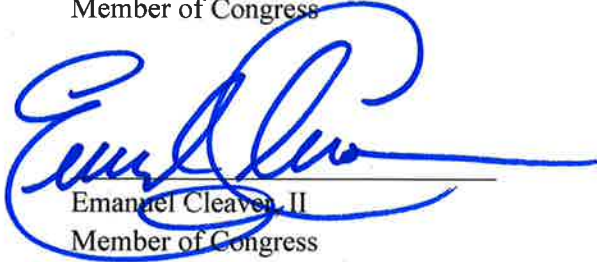
Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



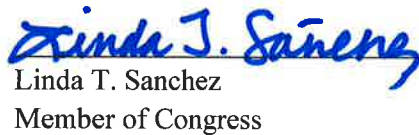
Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress



Albio Sires
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Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sanchez
Member of Congress



Don Young
Member of Congress



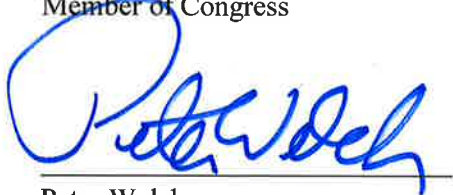
Timothy J. Walz
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Doris Matsui
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Patrick Meehan
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Peter Welch
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Barbara Lee
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Jerry McNerney
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Adam Smith
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Keith Ellison
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David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



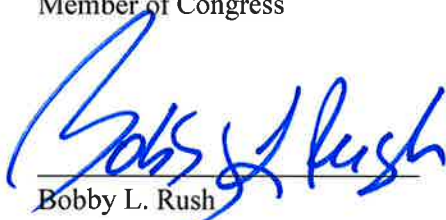
Gerald E. Connolly
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Maxine Waters
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Collin C. Peterson
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Bobby L. Rush
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Sheila Jackson Lee
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Elijah E. Cummings
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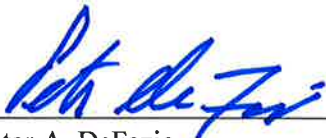
Danny K. Davis
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Eleanor Holmes Norton
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André Carson
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Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



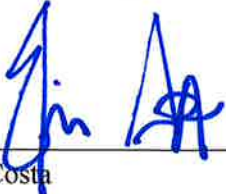
Rick Larsen
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Diana DeGette
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Jerrold Nadler
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James R. Langevin
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Kathy Castor
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Robert A. Brady
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Jared Polis
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Kyrsten Sinema
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Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



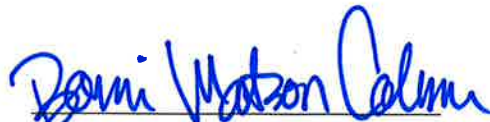
John K. Delaney
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John Katko
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Jim Cooper
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Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



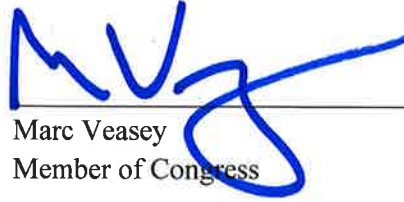
Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



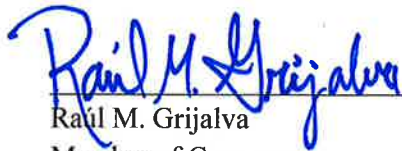
Carol Shea-Porter
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Dave Loebsack
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Marc Veasey
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Raúl M. Grijalva
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Kathleen M. Rice
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Ron Kind
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John B. Larson
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Tulsi Gabbard
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Bradley S. Schneider
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Darren Soto
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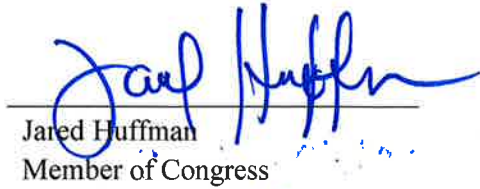
Michael E. Capuano
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Ed Perlmutter
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Seth Moulton
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Jared Huffman
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Carlos Curbelo
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Zoe Lofgren
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Beto O'Rourke
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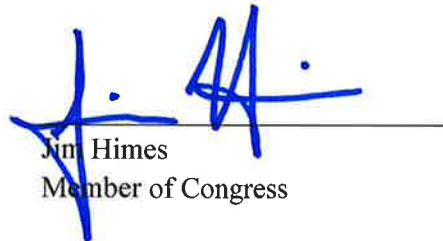
Nanette Diaz Barragan
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Stephanie Murphy
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Sander M. Levin
Member of Congress



Jim Himes
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Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress



Brenda L. Lawrence
Member of Congress



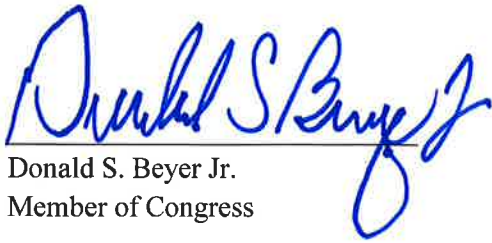
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



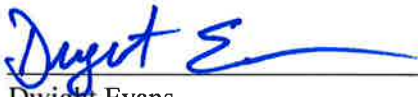
Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



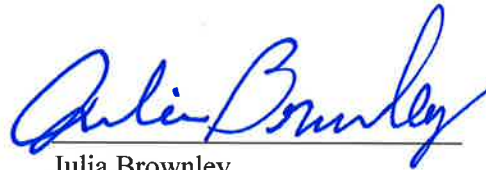
Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



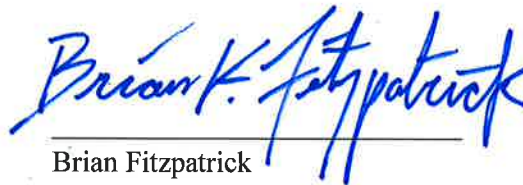
Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



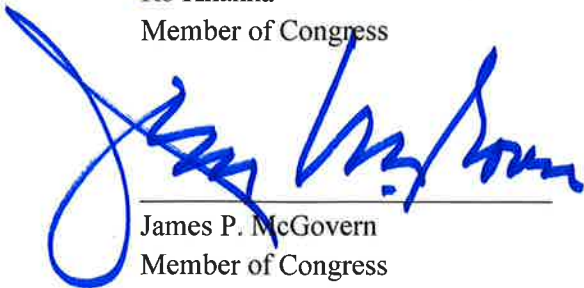
Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Filemon Vela
Member of Congress



Joseph P. Kennedy III
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



Charlie Crist
Member of Congress



Denny Heck
Member of Congress



Colleen Hanabusa
Member of Congress



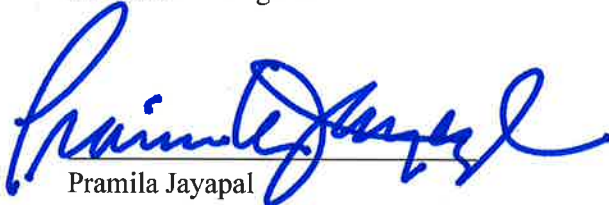
Jacky Rosen
Member of Congress



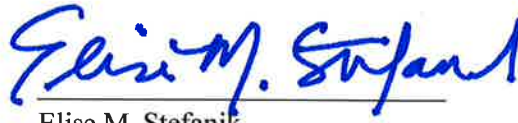
John Lewis
Member of Congress



Ryan A. Costello
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Elise M. Stefanik
Member of Congress



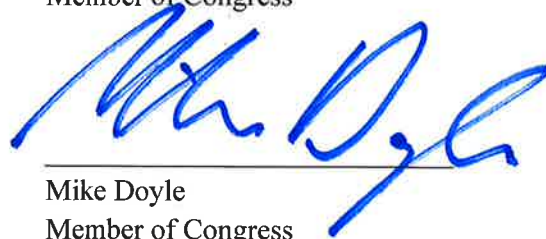
A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress



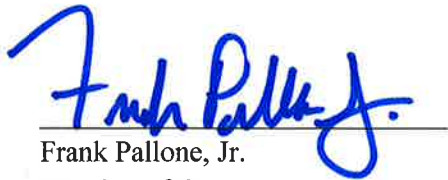
Ruben J. Kihuen
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Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Mike Doyle
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Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Barbara Comstock
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Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



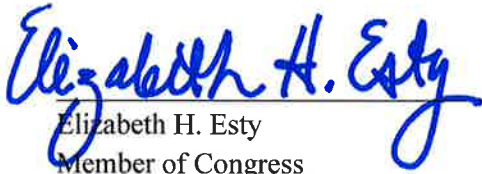
Thomas R. Suozzi
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David Scott
Member of Congress



Alma S. Adams
Member of Congress



Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress



Scott Tipton
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Michelle Lujan Grisham
Member of Congress



Salud O. Carbajal
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



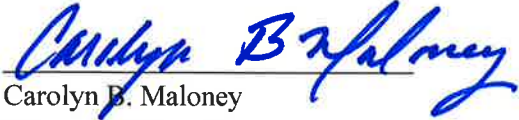
Mike Coffman
Member of Congress



C.A. Dutch Ruppensberger
Member of Congress



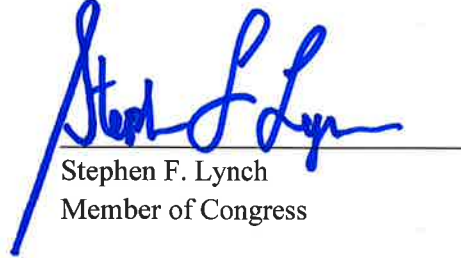
William R. Keating
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Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



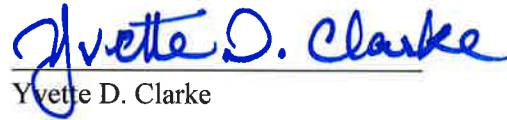
Lloyd Doggett
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Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
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Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



John J. Faso
Member of Congress



Jenniffer González-Colón
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress





Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress

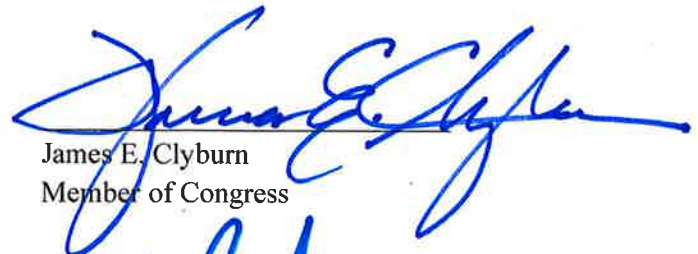

John Garamendi
Member of Congress


Joe Wilson
Member of Congress

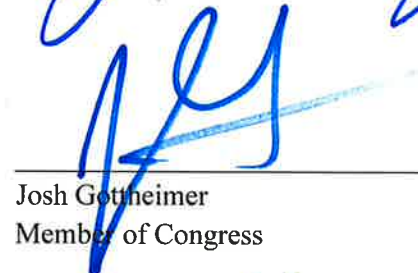

Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress


Steve Stivers
Member of Congress


Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress


James E. Clyburn
Member of Congress


Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress

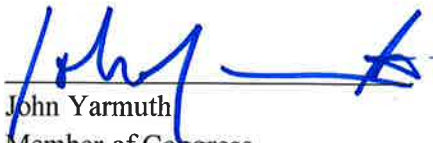

Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress


Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress


Tom MacArthur
Member of Congress




Donald M. Payne, Jr.
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John Yarmuth
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Tom O'Halleran
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Debbie Dingell
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Mark DeSaulnier
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Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress