

DAVID PRICE
4TH DISTRICT
NORTH CAROLINA



2108 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-1784

436 N. HARRINGTON STREET, SUITE 100
RALEIGH, NC 27603
(919) 859-5999

1777 FORDHAM BLVD., SUITE 204
CHAPEL HILL, NC 27514
(919) 967-7924

301 GREEN STREET, SUITE 315
FAYETTEVILLE, NC 28301
(910) 323-0260

www.price.house.gov

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
RANKING MEMBER, TRANSPORTATION &
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
HOMELAND SECURITY
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION &
VETERANS AFFAIRS

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

April 6, 2017

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services, Education,
and Related Agencies
2358-B Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services, Education
and Related Agencies
1016 Longworth Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As you draft your Fiscal Year 2018 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations bill, we request that you include at least \$72.16 million for International Education and Foreign Language Studies, \$65.1 million for HEA-Title VI and \$7.06 million for Fulbright-Hays programs.

Title VI/Fulbright-Hays programs have had a tremendous impact on our nation over the years by developing a strong foundation in international education, research, and foreign language studies, especially in the less-commonly taught languages of U.S. strategic interest.

Multiple GAO reports have cited shortfalls of language and culture skills in the U.S. military and intelligence community, finding that our nation's language deficit could threaten our priorities and missions around the globe. Meanwhile, America's business and their clientele are diversifying and globalizing their operations, requiring language skills to access global markets.

The Commission on Language Learning of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, requested by Congress in 2014, released its final report on February 28, 2017. The data demonstrates that "by several measures, the United States has neglected languages in its educational curricula, its international strategies, and its domestic policies." It is clear that effective communication is the basis of international cooperation, and a strong national defense depends substantially on the ability of Americans to communicate and compete by knowing the languages and cultures of other countries.

Strong academic programs in critical foreign languages and intensive training in multi-disciplinary regional studies -- including socio-economic, cultural, security, and religious and business aspects, among others -- are vital to our national security and global economic competitiveness. But beyond the intensive curriculum development and related academic programming resulting from these programs, Title VI resources make possible extensive outreach to K-12 classrooms, strong collaborations between four-year postsecondary institutions

and community colleges, and strengthened ties between U. S. postsecondary institutions and international partners.

The various programs funded under this account serve to strengthen the nation's educational infrastructure in areas where the need grows greater by the day. Unfortunately, Title VI and Fulbright-Hays programs have been weakened by recent budget reductions at the very time their importance has grown. Therefore, we strongly urge at least level funding for these programs to preserve this critical international and foreign language education infrastructure. This is a small but vitally important investment in our nation's education, national security, and economic competitiveness.

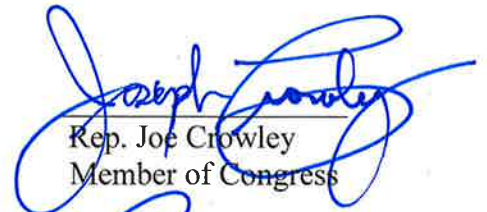
Sincerely,



Rep. David E. Price
Member of Congress



Rep. Don Young
Member of Congress



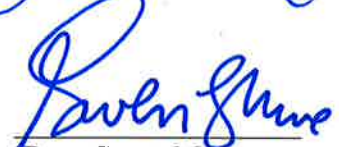
Rep. Joe Crowley
Member of Congress



Rep. David Scott
Member of Congress



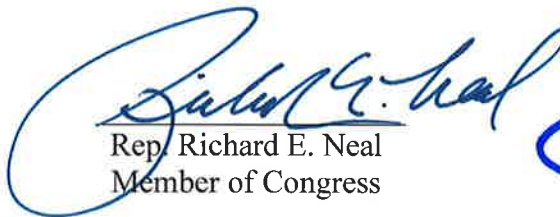
Rep. Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



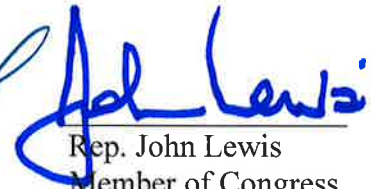
Rep. Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



Rep. Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Rep. Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress



Rep. John Lewis
Member of Congress



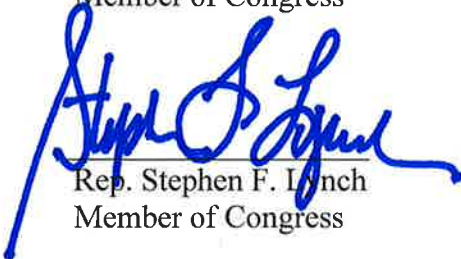
Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Rep. Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



Rep. William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Rep. Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Rep. Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Rep. Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress




Rep. Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Rep. Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



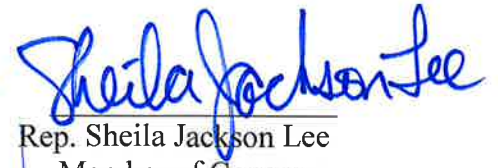
Rep. Susan Davis
Member of Congress



Rep. Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Rep. Carol Shea-Porter
Member of Congress



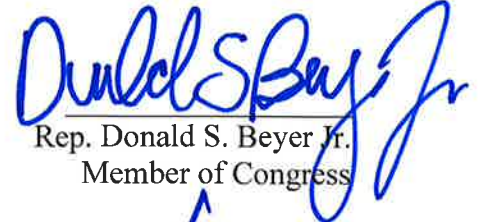
Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



Rep. Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Rep. David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



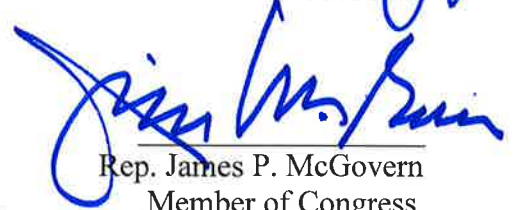
Rep. Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



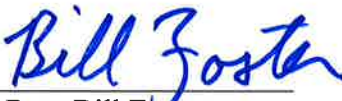
Rep. Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



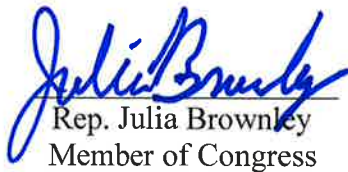
Rep. Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress



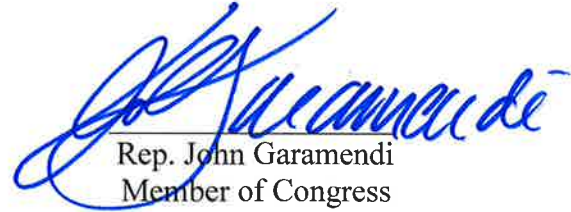
Rep. James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Rep. Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Rep. Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Rep. John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Rep. Stephanie Murphy
Member of Congress



Rep. Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



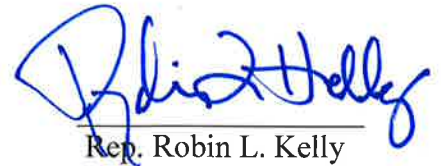
Rep. Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Rep. Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Rep. Sander Levin
Member of Congress



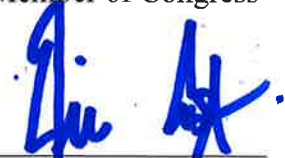
Rep. Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Rep. Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger
Member of Congress



Rep. Jim Costa
Member of Congress

Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy, III
Member of Congress

Rep. G. K. Butterfield
Member of Congress

Rep. Scott Peters
Member of Congress

Rep. Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress

Rep. Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress

Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress

Rep. Daniel Lipinski
Member of Congress

Rep. Seth Moulton
Member of Congress

Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress

Rep. Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress

Rep. Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress

Rep. Alma Adams
Member of Congress

Rep. Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress

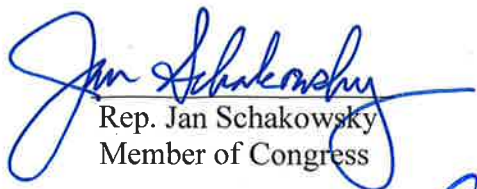
Rep. Jared Polis
Member of Congress


Rep. Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

Rep. Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress

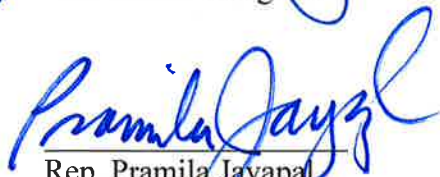
Rep. Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress

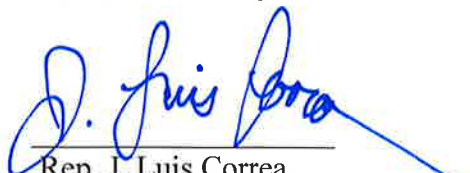
Rep. Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress


Rep. Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Rep. Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress


Rep. Dan Kildee
Member of Congress


Rep. Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress


Rep. J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress


Rep. Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress


Rep. Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress