

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

March 22, 2016

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 to respectfully request your support of a funding level of \$155 million in the Fiscal Year 2017 (FY17) Interior Appropriations bill.

As you know, NEH is the primary source of federal support for humanities research, teaching, preservation, public programming, and related activities in the U.S. The Endowment provides competitive grant funding for research and scholarship in history, literature, foreign languages, and other fields that provide individuals with critical ethical, cultural, and historical perspective. Additionally, NEH funding allocated through state humanities councils strengthens the cultural infrastructure of local communities in every state and territory across the nation.

Investment in the humanities advances vital U.S. 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 vital to U.S. interests. That's 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 outstanding steward of the relatively small amount of federal support it receives annually. Between 1965 and 2014, NEH successfully leveraged more than \$4.8 billion in non-federal support (adjusted for inflation). However, current demand for humanities project support far exceeds funding availability and non-federal support for the humanities has declined in recent years, in part due to the current economic downturn. Each year, as billions of dollars are rightfully invested in research and education in science and technology, the relative federal investment in the humanities falls further behind.

We are aware of the many difficult choices your Subcommittee faces in crafting its FY 2017 bill, but we believe that strong federal support for the humanities is needed now more than ever to preserve America's place as a world leader in education and innovation for all fields of learning and help 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.

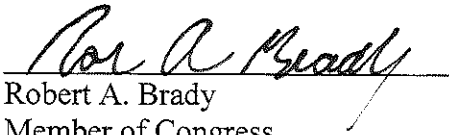
Sincerely,



David E. Price  
Member of Congress



Leonard Lance  
Member of Congress



Robert A. Brady  
Member of Congress



James R. Langevin  
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress



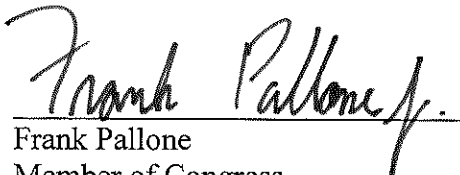
Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



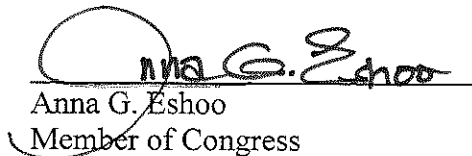
Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress



Alma S. Adams  
Member of Congress



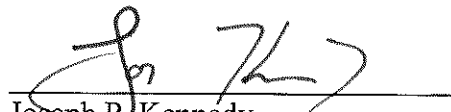
Frank Pallone  
Member of Congress



Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress



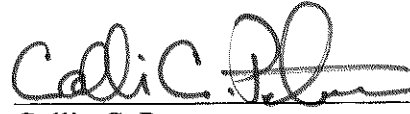
Alan Grayson  
Member of Congress



Joseph P. Kennedy  
Member of Congress



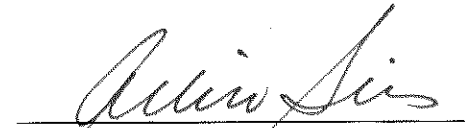
Chris Gibson  
Member of Congress



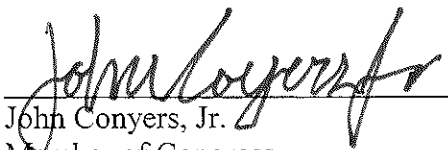
Collin C. Peterson  
Member of Congress



Peter Welch  
Member of Congress



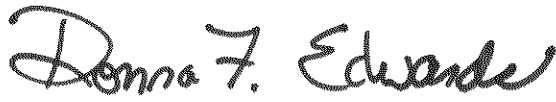
Albio Sires  
Member of Congress



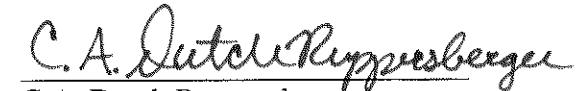
John Conyers, Jr.  
Member of Congress



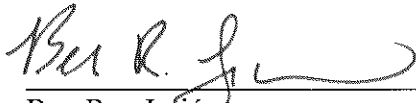
Mike Coffman  
Member of Congress



Donna F. Edwards  
Member of Congress



C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger  
Member of Congress



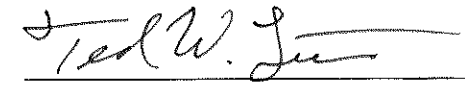
Ben Ray Lujan  
Member of Congress



Mike Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



Tulsi Gabbard  
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



Tammy Duckworth  
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



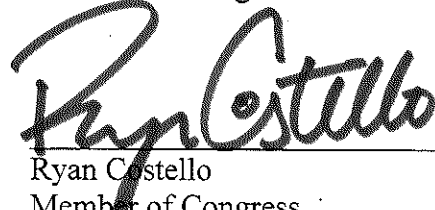
Dan Kildee  
Member of Congress



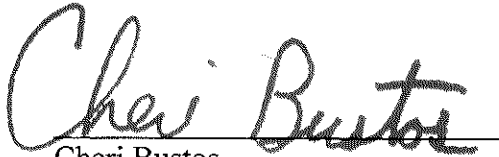
Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



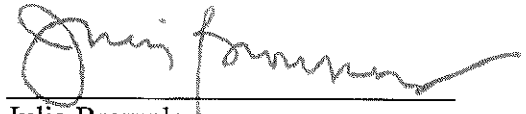
Elizabeth Esty  
Member of Congress



Ryan Costello  
Member of Congress



Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



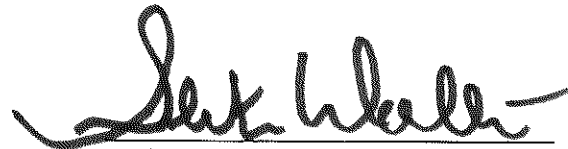
Scott Peters  
Member of Congress



Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz  
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



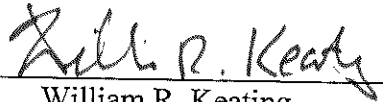
Ed Perlmutter  
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress



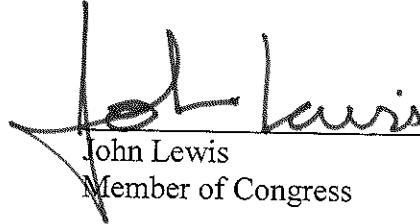
Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress




William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



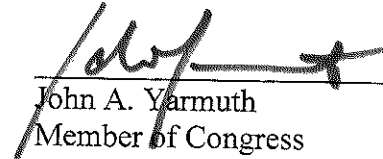
Suzan DelBene  
Member of Congress



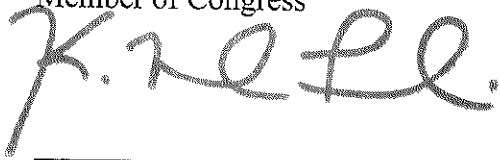
John Lewis  
Member of Congress



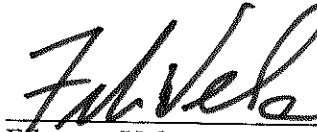
Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



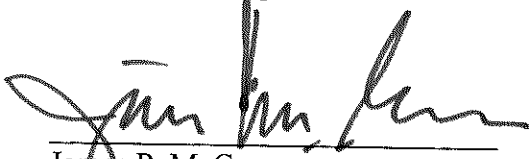
John A. Yarmuth  
Member of Congress



Mark Takai  
Member of Congress



Eilemon Vela  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



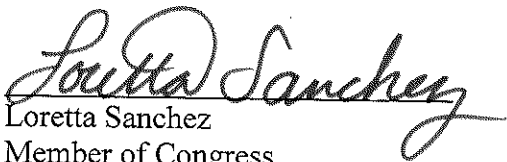
Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



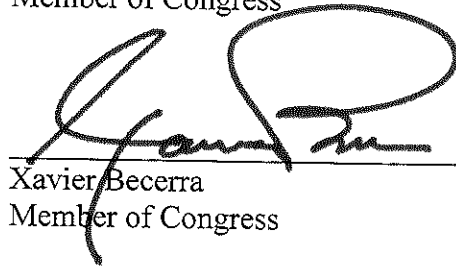
Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress



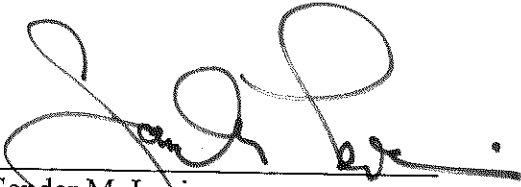
Sam Farr  
Member of Congress



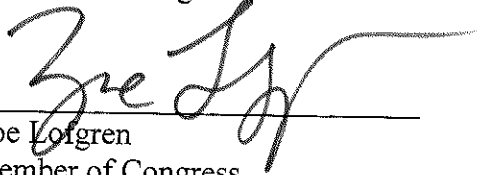
Loretta Sanchez  
Member of Congress



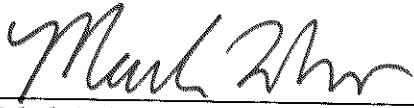
Xavier Becerra  
Member of Congress



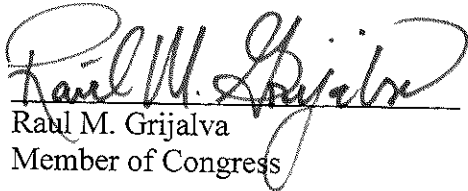
Sander M. Levin  
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



Raul M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



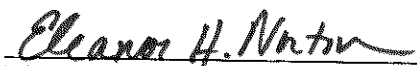
Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress



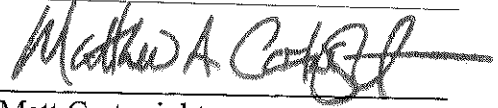
Niki Tsongas  
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



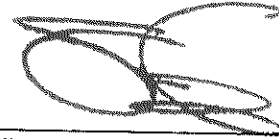
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



Matt Cartwright  
Member of Congress



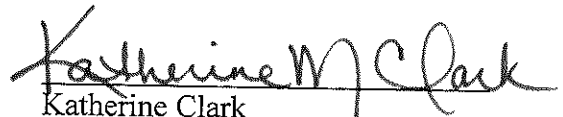
Kathleen M. Rice  
Member of Congress



Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress



Mike Honda  
Member of Congress



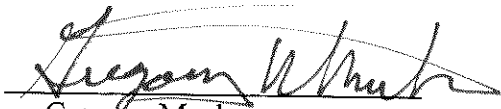
Katherine Clark  
Member of Congress



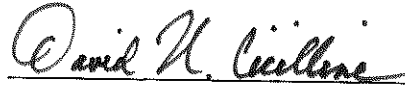
Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



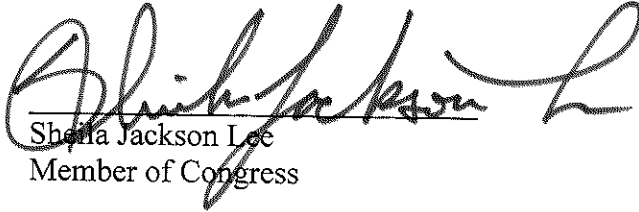
Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



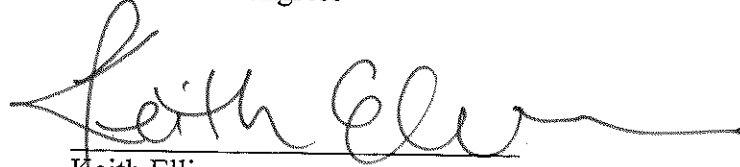
Gregory Meeks  
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David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress




Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress



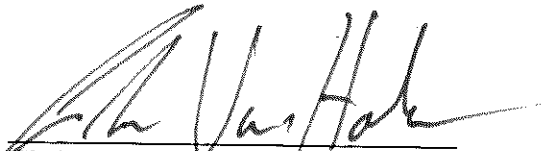
Keith Ellison  
Member of Congress



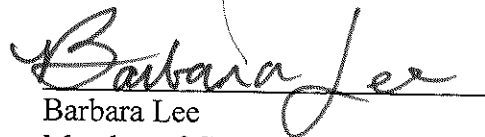
Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress



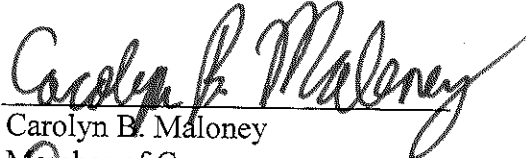
Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress



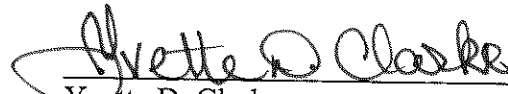
Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress



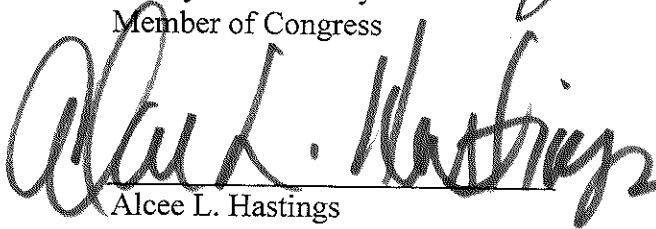
Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



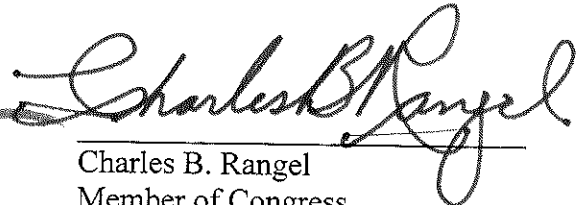
Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress



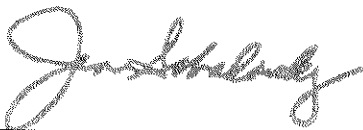
Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



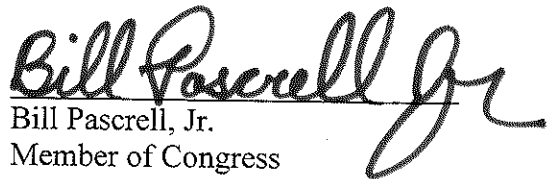
Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress



Charles B. Rangel  
Member of Congress



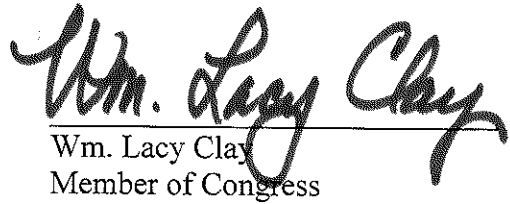
Janice D. Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



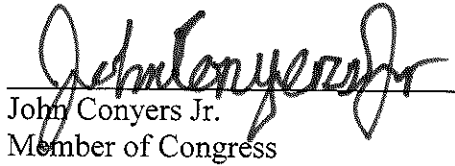
Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress



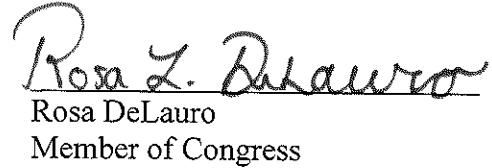
Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



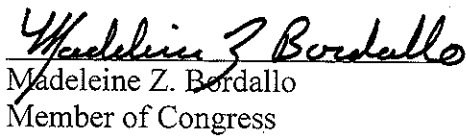
Wm. Lacy Clay  
Member of Congress



John Conyers Jr.  
Member of Congress



Rosa DeLauro  
Member of Congress



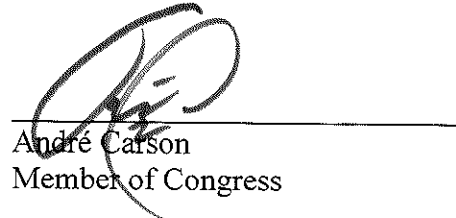
Madeleine Z. Bordallo  
Member of Congress



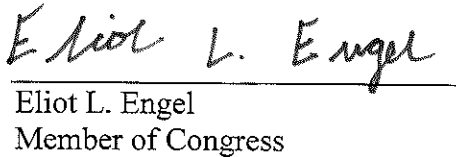
John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



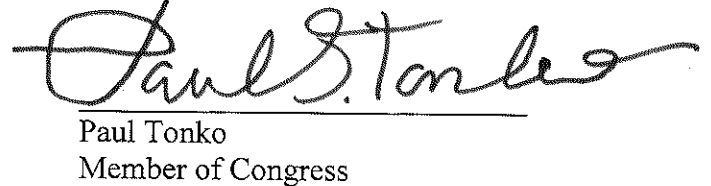
Theodore E. Deutch  
Member of Congress



André Carson  
Member of Congress



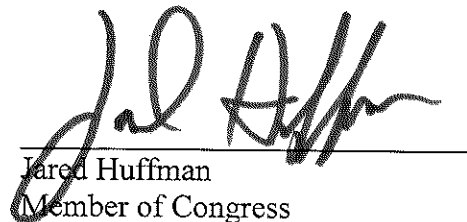
Eliot L. Engel  
Member of Congress



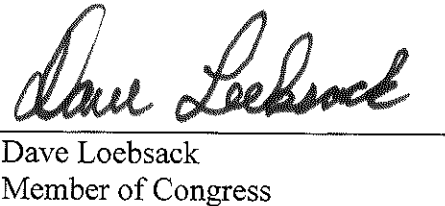
Paul Tonko  
Member of Congress



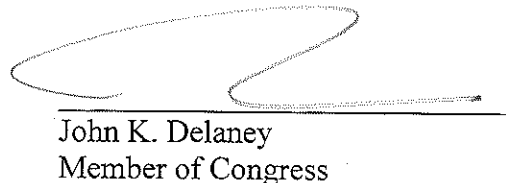
Denny Heck  
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



Dave Loebsack  
Member of Congress



John K. Delaney  
Member of Congress





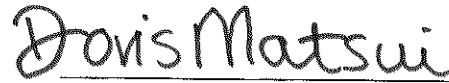
Peter DeFazio  
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



Daniel M. Donovan Jr.  
Member of Congress



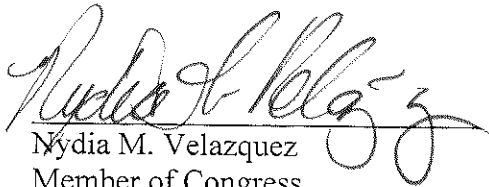
Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



Chaka Fattah  
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velazquez  
Member of Congress



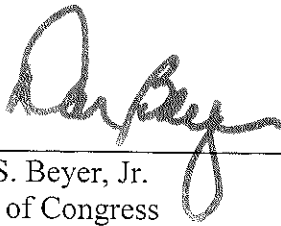
David McKinley  
Member of Congress




Richard Hanna  
Member of Congress



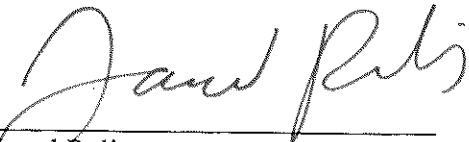
Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress




Donald S. Beyer, Jr.  
Member of Congress



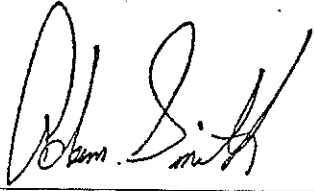
Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



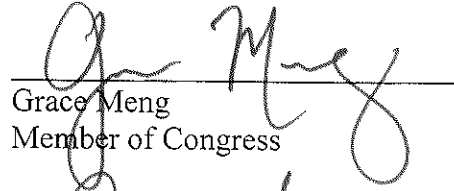
Jared Polis  
Member of Congress



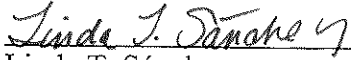
G.K. Butterfield  
Member of Congress



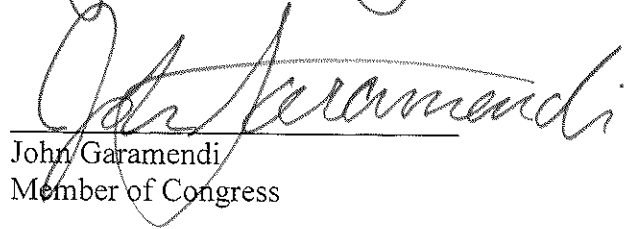
Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



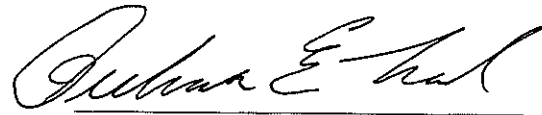
Linda T. Sanchez  
Member of Congress



John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



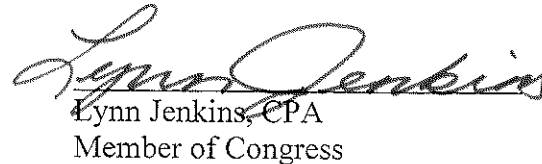
Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



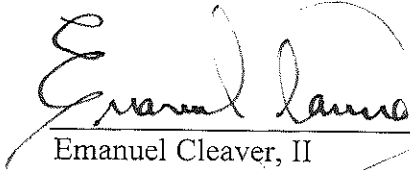
Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress



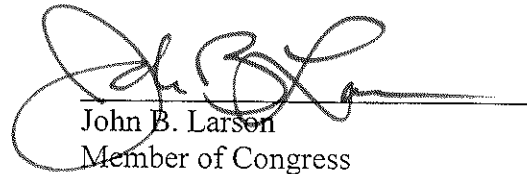
Marc Veasey  
Member of Congress



Lynn Jenkins, CPA  
Member of Congress



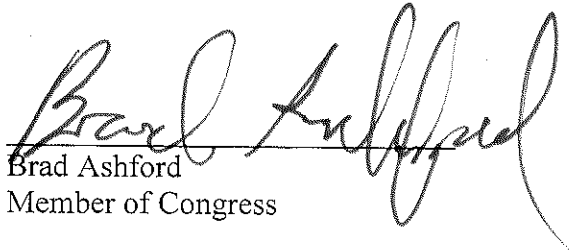
Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



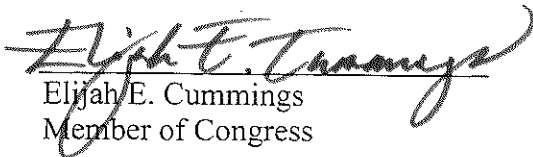
John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



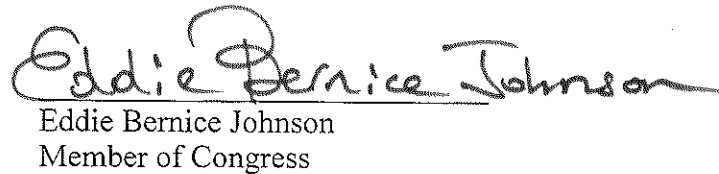
Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Member of Congress



Brad Ashford  
Member of Congress



Elijah E. Cummings  
Member of Congress



Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



Lois Capps  
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



Don Young  
Member of Congress



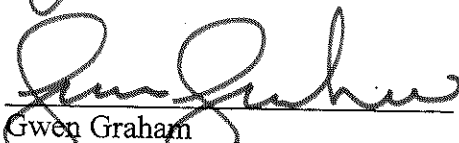
Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



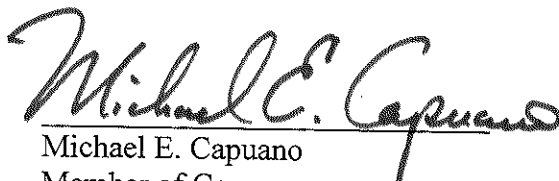
Ron Kind  
Member of Congress



Jim McDermott  
Member of Congress



Gwen Graham  
Member of Congress



Michael E. Capuano  
Member of Congress



Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress



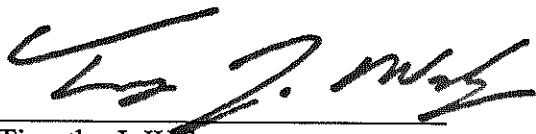
Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress



Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy J. Walz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "T" and "W".

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Timothy J. Walz  
Member of Congress