

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

April 1, 2019

The Honorable José Serrano  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,  
Science, and Related Agencies  
House Appropriations Committee  
H-310 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert Aderholdt  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,  
Science, and Related Agencies  
House Appropriations Committee  
1203 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Serrano and Ranking Aderholdt,

Thank you for your ongoing and diligent efforts to appropriately rebalance limited resources in order to support our nation's highest priorities. As you begin to craft the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies (CJS) appropriation bill for Fiscal Year 2020, we respectfully urge you to include sufficient funding for the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) Program and the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) programs -- in particular, the COPS Hiring program. These programs are critical to ensuring that state and local law enforcement have the tools, programs, personnel and resources necessary to protect and serve their communities, including in efforts to prevent further gun violence and help stem the opioid epidemic.

The Byrne JAG and COPS programs are the cornerstone of our federal justice assistance programs. Since their inception, the Byrne JAG and COPS programs have enabled law enforcement agencies to form vital partnerships among communities and law enforcement officers, combat criminal activities, and develop and implement problem-solving and crime prevention programs nationwide.

The strength of the Byrne JAG program is in its impact across the criminal justice system, from law enforcement to prosecution and courts, crime prevention and education, corrections and community corrections, drug treatment and enforcement, program planning, evaluation, technology improvement, and crime victim and witness initiatives.

The COPS Office and its corresponding programs provide invaluable resources and technical assistance to state and local law enforcement agencies, keeping our communities safe. Sufficient funding is critical to ensuring that law enforcement has the resources necessary to effectively and efficiently protect the public, because in recent years law enforcement agencies have experienced shrinking budgets and difficult decisions concerning operational readiness and number of officers on patrol.


We appreciate the difficulty you face in appropriating adequate resources for the programs under your jurisdiction and we thank you for your work. Support for the Byrne JAG and COPS Hiring

programs is imperative to the safety of our communities. These programs supplement the manpower and incentivize collaboration across agencies necessary to build upon successful crime reduction efforts of the past twenty years. For these reasons, we respectfully request that you include strong funding for the Byrne JAG and COPS programs, especially the COPS Hiring program, in the FY2020 CJS appropriations bill.

Sincerely,

  
Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress

  
John Rutherford  
Member of Congress

  
Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress

  
Rick W. Allen  
Member of Congress

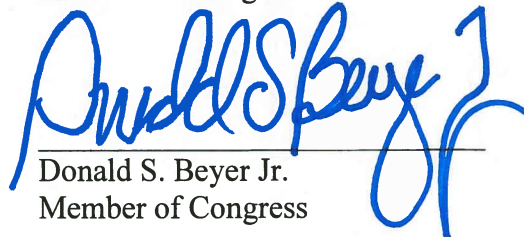
  
Kelly Armstrong  
Member of Congress

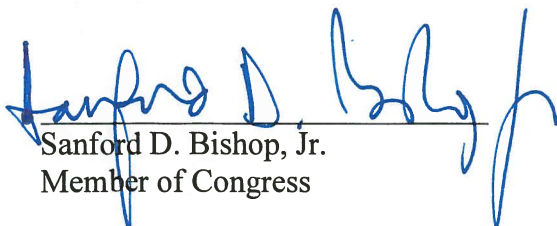
  
Cindy Axne  
Member of Congress

  
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Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
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Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
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Earl Blumenauer  
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Lisa Blunt Rochester  
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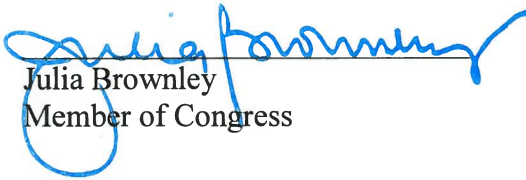
Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



Anthony G. Brown  
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress



G. K. Butterfield  
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Bradley Byrne  
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Salud Carbajal  
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Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress



André Carson  
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor  
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Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



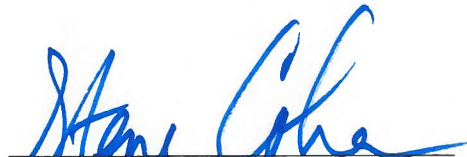
Judy Chu  
Member of Congress

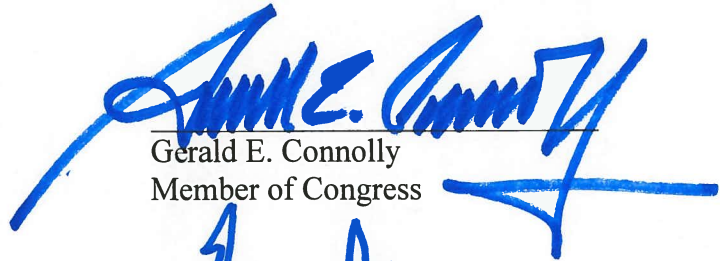


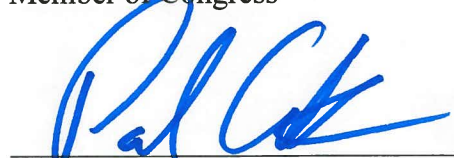
David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress

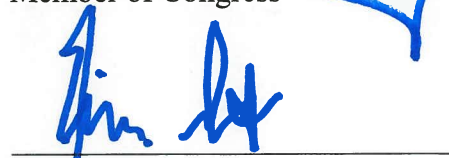


Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress

  
Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress

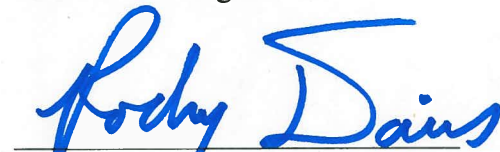
  
Gerald E. Connolly  
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Paul Cook  
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Jim Costa  
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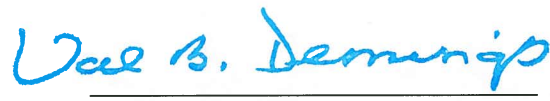
  
Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress

  
Elijah E. Cummings  
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Rodney Davis  
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Peter A. DeFazio  
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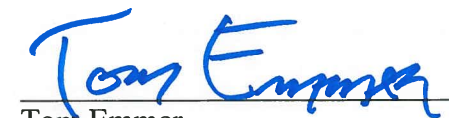
  
Rosa L. DeLauro  
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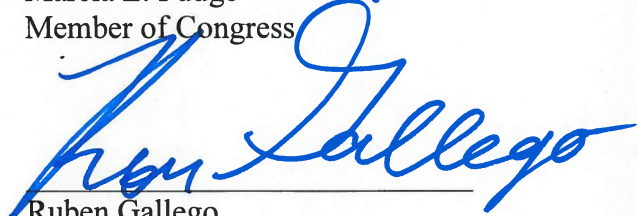
Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



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Tulsi Gabbard  
Member of Congress



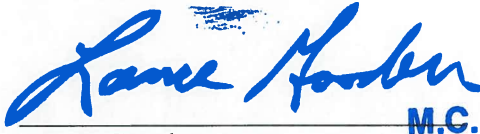
Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress



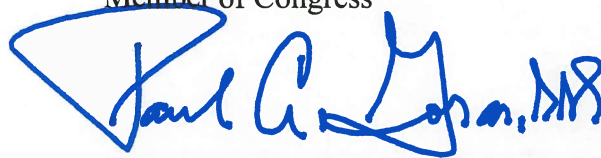
Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



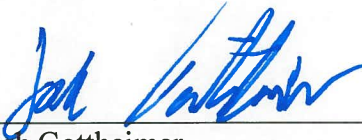
Jennifer González-Colón  
Member of Congress



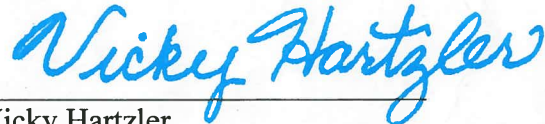
Lance Gooden  
Member of Congress



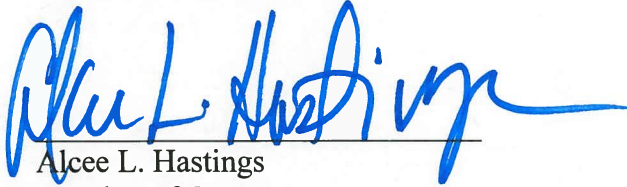
Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.  
Member of Congress



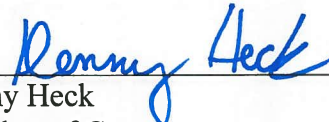
Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



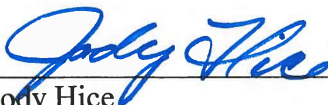
Vicky Hartzler  
Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress



Denny Heck  
Member of Congress



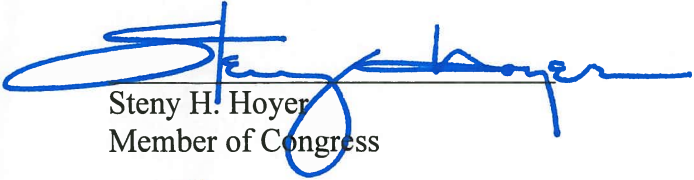
Jody Hice  
Member of Congress




Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress

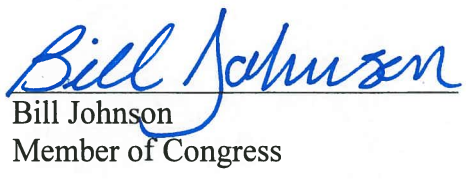
  
Jim Himes  
Member of Congress

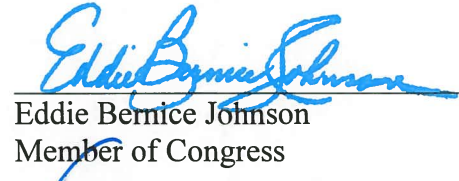
  
Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress

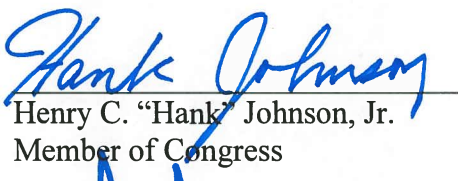
  
Steny H. Hoyer  
Member of Congress

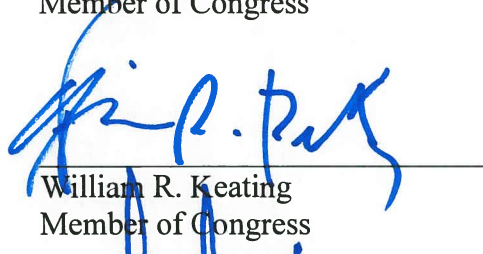
  
Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress

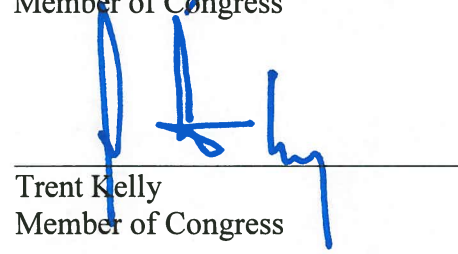
  
Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress

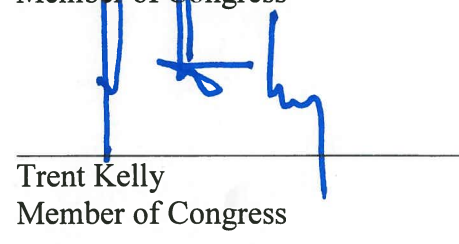
  
Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress

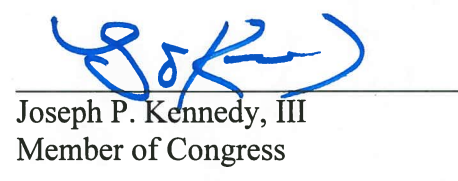
  
Eddie Bernice Johnson  
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Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
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William R. Keating  
Member of Congress

  
Trent Kelly  
Member of Congress

  
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Member of Congress

  
Joseph P. Kennedy, III  
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Ro Khanna  
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Dan Kildee  
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Steve King  
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Adam Kinzinger  
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster  
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James R. Langevin  
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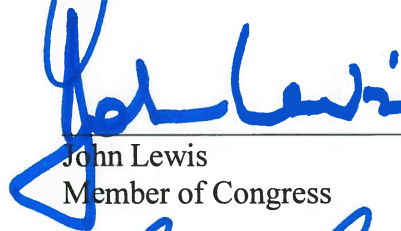
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Member of Congress



John B. Larson  
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Barbara Lee  
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John Lewis  
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Daniel W. Lipinski  
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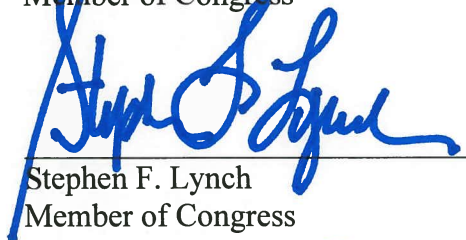
Dave Loebsack  
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Zoe Lofgren  
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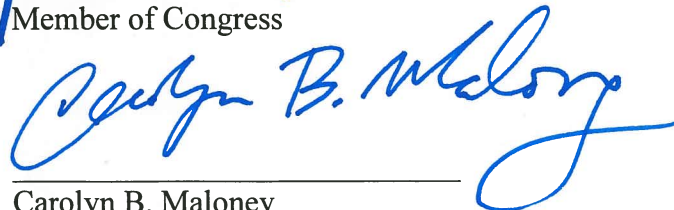
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Tom Malinowski  
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Carolyn B. Maloney  
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Sean Patrick Maloney  
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Jerry McNerney

Jerry McNerney  
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Gwen Moore

Gwen Moore  
Member of Congress

Seth Moulton

Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress

Stephanie Murphy

Stephanie Murphy  
Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano

Grace F. Napolitano  
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Richard Neal

Richard Neal  
Member of Congress

Donald Norcross

Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress

Eleanor H. Norton

Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress

Tom O'Halleran

Tom O'Halleran  
Member of Congress

Frank Pallone, Jr.

Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress

Jimmy Panetta

Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress

Chris Pappas

Chris Pappas  
Member of Congress





Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Ed Perlmutter  
Member of Congress



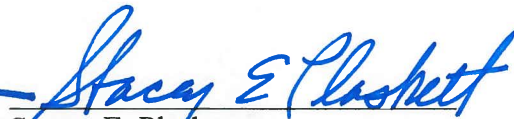
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Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



Stacey E. Plaskett  
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Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



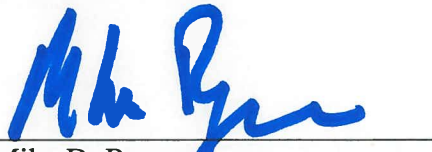
Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



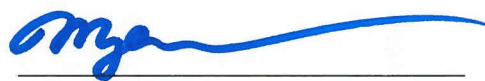
Guy Reschenthaler  
Member of Congress



Kathleen M. Rice  
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Mike D. Rogers  
Member of Congress



Max Rose  
Member of Congress



Lucille Roybal-Allard  
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Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
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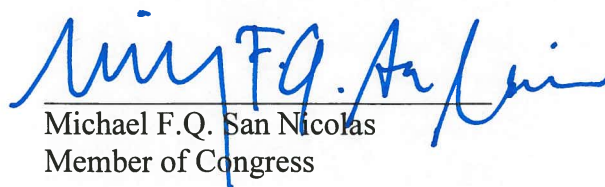
C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger  
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress



Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan  
Member of Congress



Michael F.Q. San Nicolas  
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



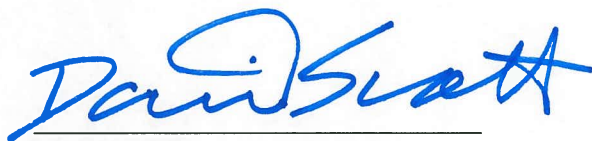
Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



Brad Schneider  
Member of Congress



David Scott  
Member of Congress



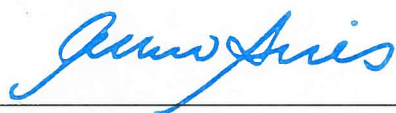
Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



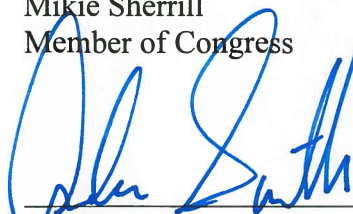
Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress



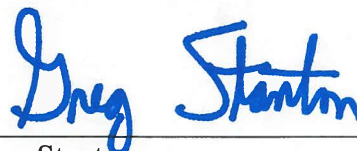
Albio Sires  
Member of Congress



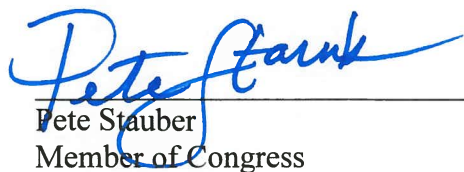
Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



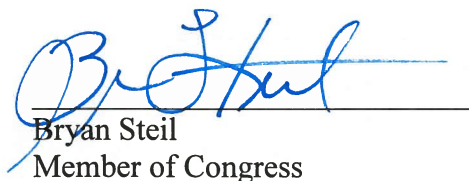
Abigail D. Spanberger  
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Pete Stauber  
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Bryan Steil  
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Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



Steve Stivers  
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell  
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Mark Takano  
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Mike Thompson  
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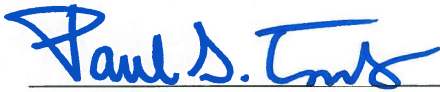
Glenn "GT" Thompson  
Member of Congress



Scott R. Tipton  
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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



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Michael R. Turner  
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Jeff Van Drew  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
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Marc Veasey  
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Filemon Vela  
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Frederica Wilson  
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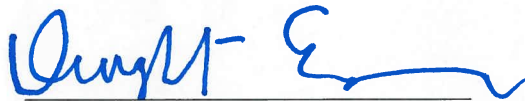
Rob Woodall  
Member of Congress


  
John Yarmuth  
Member of Congress

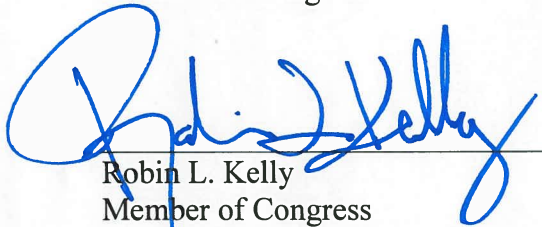
  
Don Young  
Member of Congress

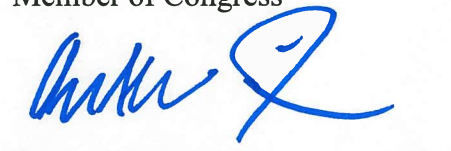
  
Lee Zeldin  
Member of Congress


  
Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress


  
Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress

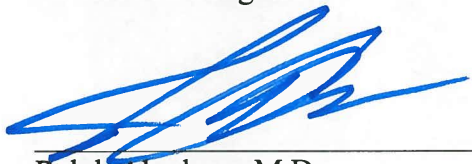
  
Brad Wenstrup  
Member of Congress

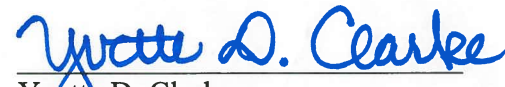
  
Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress

  
Anthony Gonzalez  
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Darren Soto  
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A. Donald McEachin  
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Ralph Abraham, M.D.  
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Member of Congress

  
Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress

  
Mo Brooks  
Member of Congress

  
Cedric L. Richmond  
Member of Congress

  
Darin LaHood  
Member of Congress

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Jennifer Wexton  
Member of Congress

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Michael Guest  
Member of Congress

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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress

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Mike Johnson  
Member of Congress

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Josh Harder  
Member of Congress

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Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress

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Conor Lamb  
Member of Congress

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Abby Finkenauer  
Member of Congress

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Collin C. Peterson  
Member of Congress

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Colin Allred  
Member of Congress

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Donna E. Shalala  
Member of Congress

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Deb Haaland  
Member of Congress

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Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress