

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
Chairman, House Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, Education, and Related  
Agencies  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member, House Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, Education, and Related  
Agencies  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLauro:

We want to thank the Subcommittee for your continued support and recognition of America's Community Health Centers as a longstanding bipartisan solution to the primary care access problems facing this country. As you proceed with the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Appropriations process, we respectfully request that the Subcommittee provide robust funding for Community Health Centers within the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies legislation for FY24. This will ensure that health centers can remain providers of high quality, cost-effective primary care, and continue to provide innovative, high-value health services to medically underserved communities across the nation.

Since the first health centers opened their doors more than fifty years ago, they have proven to be a worthwhile investment, providing quality and affordable primary and preventive care, dental, behavioral health, substance use disorder, pharmacy, vision, and a variety of complementary services to America's most vulnerable patients and medically underserved communities. Today, thanks to longstanding bipartisan support in Congress, well over 1,400 health center organizations serve more than 14,000 communities in every state and U.S. Territory, including 42 percent of health centers located in rural areas. Health Centers are the medical home for over 30 million patients – one in every eleven people – including 9 million children and nearly 400,000 veterans. Furthermore, health centers employ over 275,000 people - generating \$63.4 billion in economic impact for local communities and providing cost savings for the nation's overall health care system.

Community Health Centers have a proven record of using cost-effective, innovative strategies to deliver high-quality, affordable health care. For the past decade, Congress has supported health centers on a bipartisan basis through the annual appropriations process for the Health Center program, combined with investments in base funding for Community Health Centers. With the Community Health Center Fund also set to expire on September 30, 2024, we urge you to work with your colleagues on other committees of jurisdiction to keep funding for Community Health Centers whole in FY24. This combined discretionary and base funding of the health center program is critical to the success of these safety net providers nationwide as they meet the growing demand for affordable health care and respond to the changing needs of their communities.

Central to the health center mission is an emphasis on treating the entire person through integrated care. The objective is to serve as a comprehensive medical home by addressing physical health conditions and an individual's mental health, dental, and social determinants of health needs. Whether providing behavioral health services, offering HIV/AIDS prevention care, addressing rising maternal mortality

rates or delivering opioid addiction treatment, health centers are a cornerstone of the nation's health care system and need reliable, sustained federal support to continue their work. Without access to primary care, many people, including the chronically ill, delay seeking health care services until they are seriously ill, leading to higher costs and worse health outcomes. The Health Center model is designed to address this and other health challenges by fostering innovation and high-value care at the community level.

Health centers also demonstrated their value to the nation throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Reflecting the needs of their patients, health centers educated, vaccinated, and treated millions of patients. Since January 2021, health centers have administered over 22 million COVID-19 vaccines and 20 million tests. These providers are trusted voices in the community, which are often hard-to-reach populations.

While health centers are willing and able to do even more to carry out their mission to care for the people in our communities and the nation, they must have the resources to keep delivering care. For many health centers, funding will be critical to provide post-COVID-19 follow-up care and to address provider shortages. Severe workforce shortages and growing salary gaps make it difficult for health centers to recruit and retain the workforce necessary to provide high-quality care. Burn-out, early retirement, sickness, and marketplace competition due to COVID-19 has only exacerbated this crisis.

As Congress works to improve access to care, reduce health care spending, and promote patient-centered solutions to our health care challenges, we urge the Subcommittee to continue robust support for Community Health Centers – and their demonstrated record of success. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Gus M. Bilirakis  
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



Glenn "GT" Thompson  
Member of Congress



Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



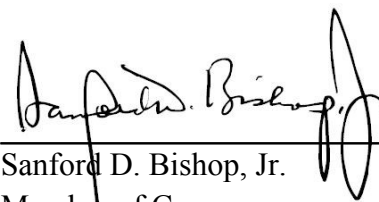
Nicole Malliotakis  
Member of Congress



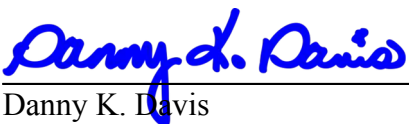
Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan  
Member of Congress



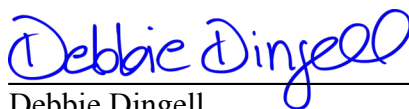
Bill Posey  
Member of Congress



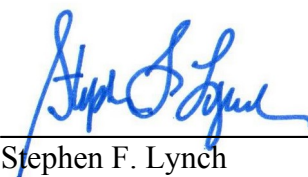
Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress



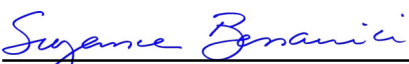
Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



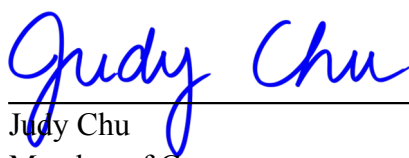
Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress



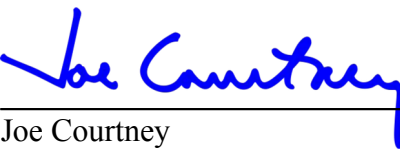
Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



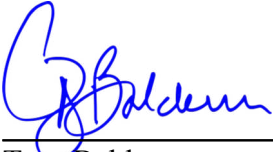
Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



Daniel T. Kildee  
Member of Congress



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Troy Balderson  
Member of Congress



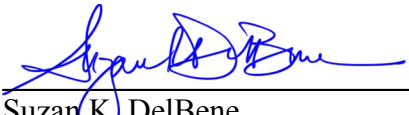
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Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



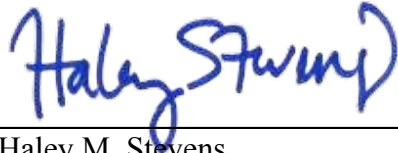
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Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



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Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



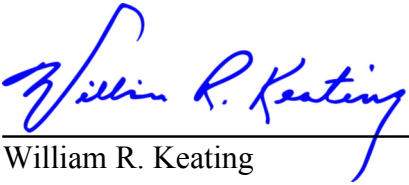
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Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



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Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



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William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



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Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



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Angie Craig  
Member of Congress



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Mike Bost  
Member of Congress



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Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress



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Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress  
, Committee on Ways and  
Means



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Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



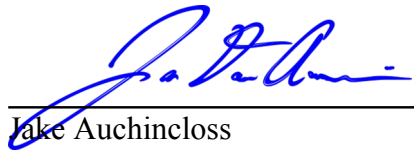
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Maria Elvira Salazar  
Member of Congress

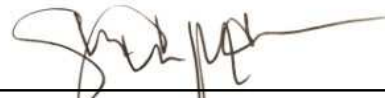


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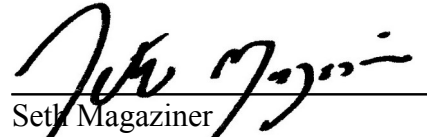
Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



Jake Auchincloss  
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress



Seth Magaziner  
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Earl Blumenauer  
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Don Bacon  
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Greg Casar  
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Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress



Paul Tonko  
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Chris Pappas  
Member of Congress



Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



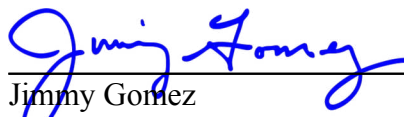
Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



Tony Cárdenas  
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Jason Crow  
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Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress

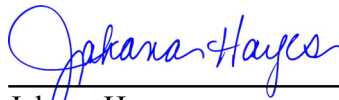


Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



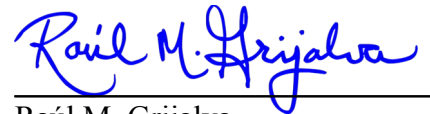
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Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress



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Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



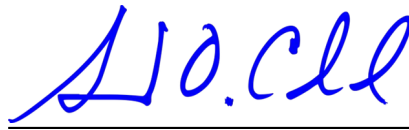
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Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



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Neal P. Dunn, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



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Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



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Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress



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Lance Gooden  
Member of Congress



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Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



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Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress



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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



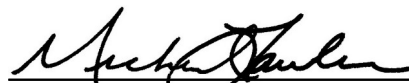
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Barry Loudermilk  
Member of Congress



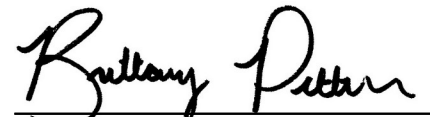
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Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



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Michael V. Lawler  
Member of Congress



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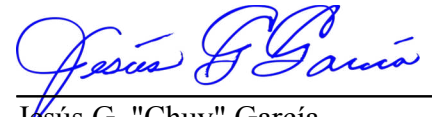
Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress



John Joyce, M.D.  
Member of Congress



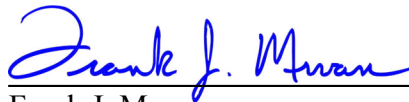
Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



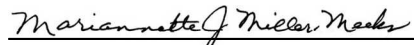
Aumua Amata Coleman  
Radewagen  
Member of Congress



Frank J. Mrvan  
Member of Congress



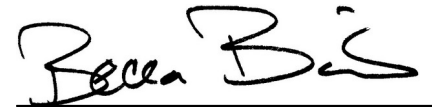
Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Mariannette Miller-Meeks,  
M.D.  
Member of Congress



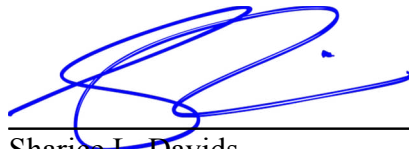
Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



Sam Graves  
Member of Congress



Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress



Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress



Lisa Blunt Rochester  
Member of Congress



Colin Z. Allred  
Member of Congress

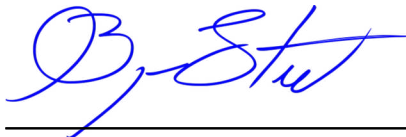


Katie Porter  
Member of Congress

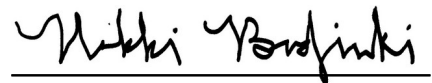




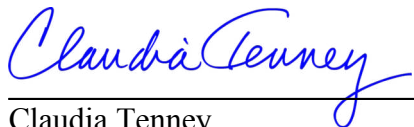
Stacey E. Plaskett  
Member of Congress



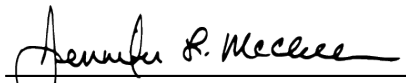
Bryan Steil  
Member of Congress



Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



Claudia Tenney  
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



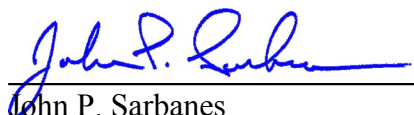
Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



Anthony D'Esposito  
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



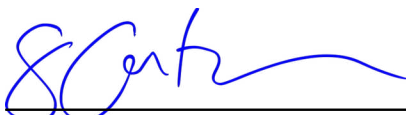
Elise M. Stefanik  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



Austin Scott  
Member of Congress



Sean Casten  
Member of Congress




Andy Kim  
Member of Congress





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Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



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Aaron Bean  
Member of Congress



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Darin LaHood  
Member of Congress



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Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



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Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



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Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress



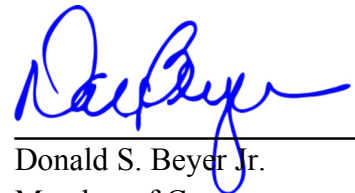
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Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



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Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



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Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



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John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



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Earl L. "Buddy" Carter  
Member of Congress



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David Scott  
Member of Congress



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André Carson  
Member of Congress



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Dean Phillips  
Member of Congress

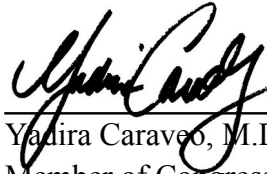


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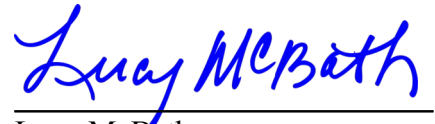
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Lloyd Smucker  
Member of Congress



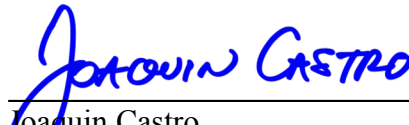
Yadira Caraveo, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Lucy McBath  
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



Mike Gallagher  
Member of Congress



Dusty Johnson  
Member of Congress



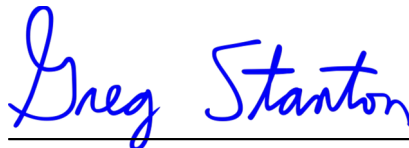
Alex X. Mooney  
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Marie Gluesenkamp Perez  
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



Bruce Westerman  
Member of Congress



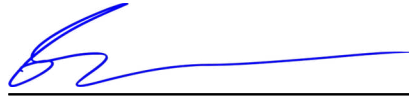
Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



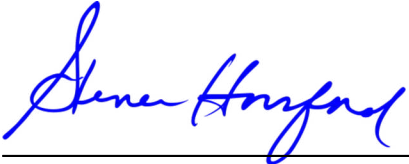
Jen A. Kiggans  
Member of Congress



Brian J. Mast  
Member of Congress



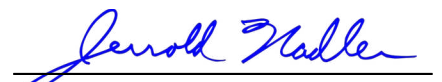
Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress



Kathy E. Manning  
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



Sydney Kamlager-Love  
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



Al Green  
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas  
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress

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Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress

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Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress

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Donald G. Davis  
Member of Congress

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Christopher H. Smith  
Member of Congress

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Emilia Strong Sykes  
Member of Congress

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David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress

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Doug LaMalfa  
Member of Congress

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Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress

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Gabe Vasquez  
Member of Congress

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Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress

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Val Hoyle  
Member of Congress

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Joe Wilson  
Member of Congress

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Daniel Webster  
Member of Congress

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Marcus J. Molinaro  
Member of Congress

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Eric A. "Rick" Crawford  
Member of Congress



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Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



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A. Drew Ferguson IV  
Member of Congress

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Richard Hudson  
Member of Congress



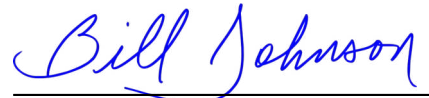
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Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress



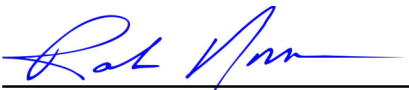
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David Rouzer  
Member of Congress



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Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress



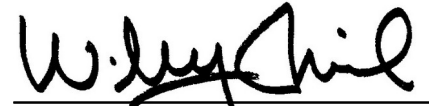
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Ralph Norman  
Member of Congress



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Jeff Jackson  
Member of Congress



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Wiley Nickel  
Member of Congress



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Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



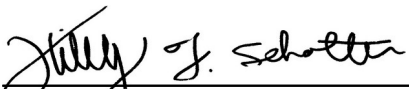
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Shontel M. Brown  
Member of Congress



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Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Hillary P. Scholten  
Member of Congress



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Lori Chavez-DeRemer  
Member of Congress

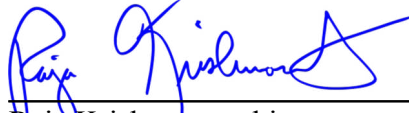


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John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



Larry Bucshon, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



Erin Houchin  
Member of Congress



Jenniffer González-Colón  
Member of Congress



Andrew R. Garbarino  
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress



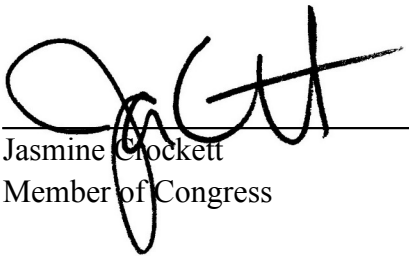
John Rose  
Member of Congress



Maxwell Alejandro Frost  
Member of Congress



Mike Kelly  
Member of Congress



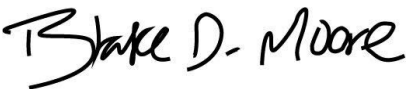
Jasmine Crockett  
Member of Congress



Frank D. Lucas  
Member of Congress



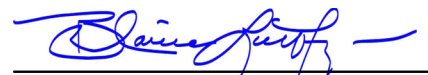
Chris Deluzio  
Member of Congress



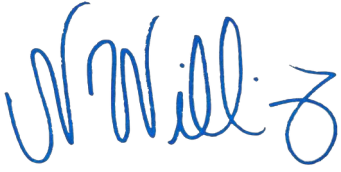
Blake D. Moore  
Member of Congress



Patrick Ryan  
Member of Congress

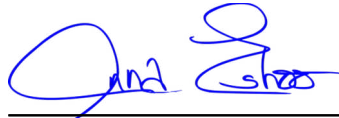


Blaine Luetkemeyer  
Member of Congress



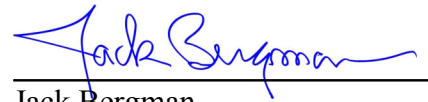
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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



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Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress



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Jack Bergman  
Member of Congress



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Michael R. Turner  
Member of Congress



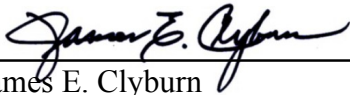
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Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Member of Congress



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Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



---

James E. Clyburn  
Member of Congress



---

Greg Pence  
Member of Congress



---

Trent Kelly  
Member of Congress



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Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress



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Teresa Leger Fernández  
Member of Congress



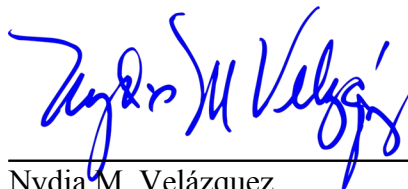
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C. A. Dutch Ruppertsberger  
Member of Congress



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Pete Stauber  
Member of Congress



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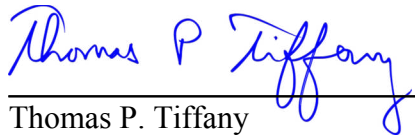
Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



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Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.  
Member of Congress

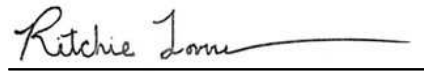




Thomas P. Tiffany  
Member of Congress



Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress



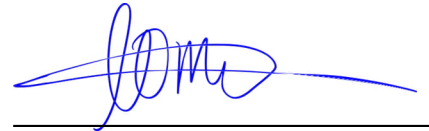
Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



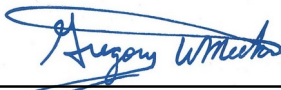
Troy Carter  
Member of Congress



Ken Buck  
Member of Congress



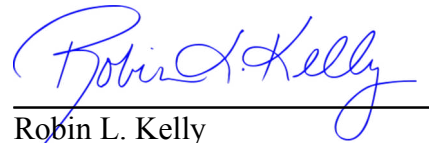
Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress



Brandon Williams  
Member of Congress



Jim Tokuda  
Member of Congress



James Comer  
Member of Congress



John S. Duarte  
Member of Congress



Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



Eric Sorensen  
Member of Congress




Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress




Robert J. Menendez  
Member of Congress



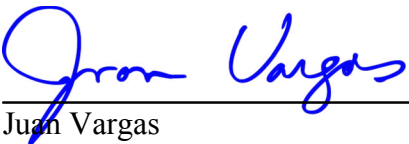
Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress



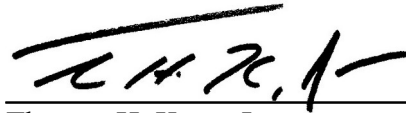
Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress



Rick W. Allen  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Thomas H. Kean, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Adrian Smith  
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



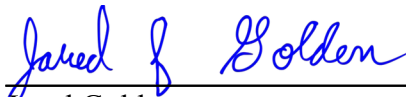
Glenn Grothman  
Member of Congress



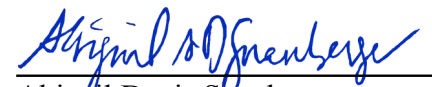
Mike Johnson  
Member of Congress



Nicholas A. Langworthy  
Member of Congress



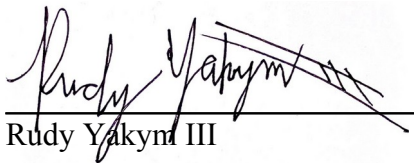
Jared Golden  
Member of Congress



Abigail Davis Spanberger  
Member of Congress



Scott DesJarlais, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Rudy Yakym III  
Member of Congress



John R. Curtis  
Member of Congress



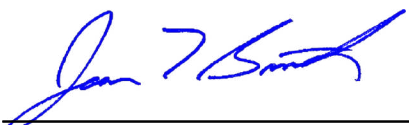
Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress



Dan Crenshaw  
Member of Congress



MARK TAKANO  
Member of Congress



Jason Smith  
Member of Congress



Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



Elissa Slotkin  
Member of Congress



Carol D. Miller  
Member of Congress



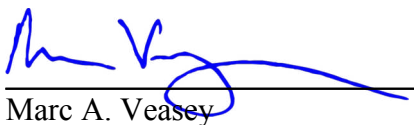
Nick LaLota  
Member of Congress



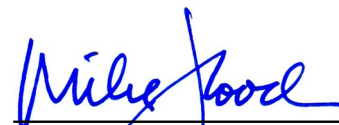
Summer Lee  
Member of Congress



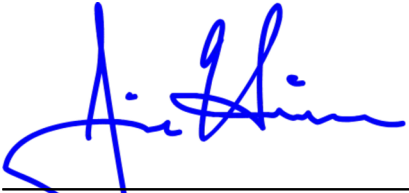
Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



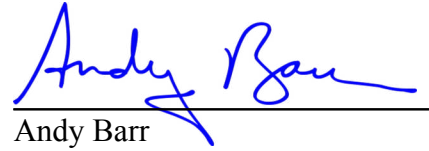
Mike Flood  
Member of Congress



James A. Himes  
Member of Congress



Tim Burchett  
Member of Congress



Andy Barr  
Member of Congress



Young Kim  
Member of Congress



Mike Carey  
Member of Congress



Russell Fry  
Member of Congress



Mary Sattler Peltola  
Member of Congress



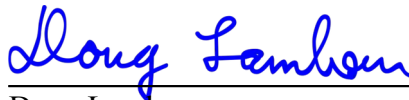
Max L. Miller  
Member of Congress



Michael T. McCaul  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



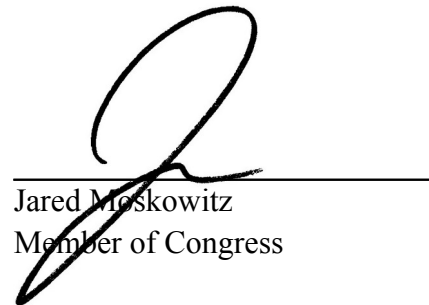
Brad Finstad  
Member of Congress



Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



Daniel Meuser  
Member of Congress



Jared Moskowitz  
Member of Congress



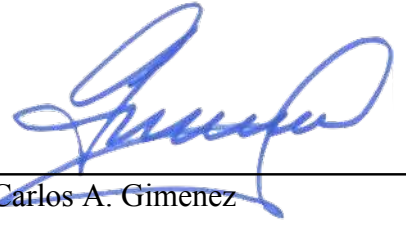
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Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



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Carlos A. Gimenez  
Member of Congress



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William R. Timmons, IV  
Member of Congress



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Cori Bush  
Member of Congress



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Pat Fallon  
Member of Congress