Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 11, 2020

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairs DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

As Members of Congress who value the critical role the National Institutes of Health (NIH) plays in better health outcomes, job creation, education, and economic growth, we respectfully request that the program level for the agency in Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 should be at least $44.7 billion, $3 billion above the final FY20 funding level, to reflect the rising costs and increasingly interdisciplinary nature of biomedical research. At a time of unprecedented scientific opportunity, it is critical that the United States make forward-thinking investments that promote medical breakthroughs as well as our international leadership in biomedical research.

In the last few years, medical research has led to new therapies that are transforming patient care for diseases such as sickle cell disease, cystic fibrosis, and through the use of CAR-T cells, certain types of cancer. Providing $44.7 billion for the NIH would build on the recent steady, sustained increases for the NIH since FY 2015 that have made such accomplishments possible. We are at the tip of the iceberg of new life-saving innovations. Imagine what we can accomplish with continued robust investments in medical research, from making strides to combat antimicrobial resistance, to harnessing the power of personalized medicine to treat disease, and more. The critical investments we make in biomedical research are our nation's best hope in finding cures and treatments of diseases that affect millions of Americans. For these reasons, more than 330 organizations representing patients, scientists, health professionals, educators, institutions, and industry support this funding recommendation.

The agency conducts research that is too expensive and risky for private industry to undertake alone but has led to major achievements in our understanding of rare diseases and disorders, as well as historically prevalent diseases like Alzheimer's, heart disease and Parkinson's. In addition to bettering the lives of millions, NIH funding supports over 300,000 non-federal scientists and technical personnel at 2,500 research universities and facilities nationwide. Their work drives the demand for medical supplies and research equipment. NIH funding ripples far beyond its headquarters in Bethesda, Maryland, to benefit manufacturers and suppliers in every state in America. In light of the difficult budget decisions you face, we want to stress the importance of NIH not only as a research agency improving the health of all Americans, but also as a job creator, driver of economic growth, and a vital tool in curbing our nation's soaring healthcare costs.

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We appreciate your consideration of our request to provide at least $44.7 billion in funding for NIH in FY 2021.

Sincerely,

Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress

David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress

André Carson
Member of Congress

Peter T. King
Member of Congress

Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress

Susan Wild
Member of Congress

Brian Higgins
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

Rick Larsen
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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Sean Casten
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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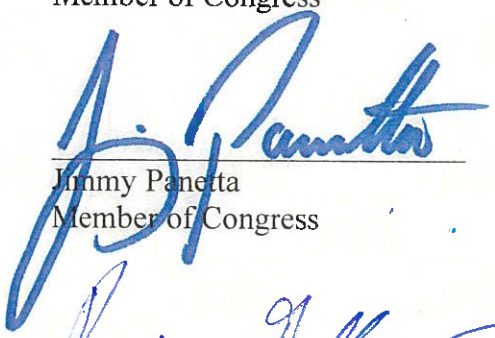
Member of Congress

Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress

David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

Salud O. Carbajal
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress

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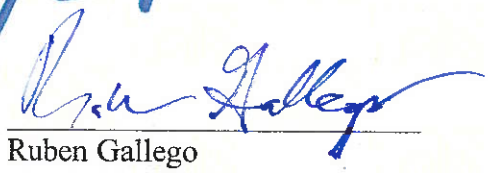
Member of Congress



Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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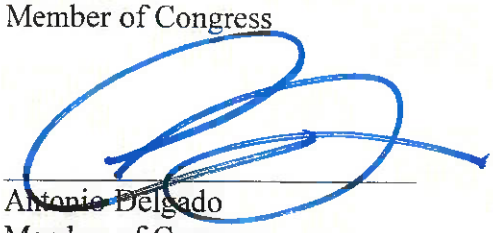
Member of Congress

Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress

Ron Kind
Member of Congress

Anthony Brindisi
Member of Congress



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Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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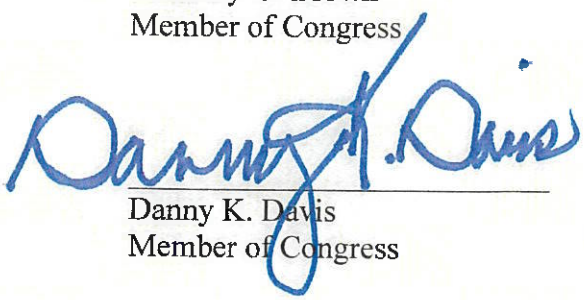
Member of Congress



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Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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Peter A. DeFazio
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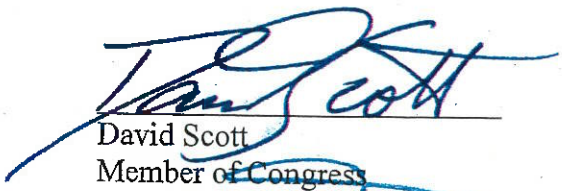
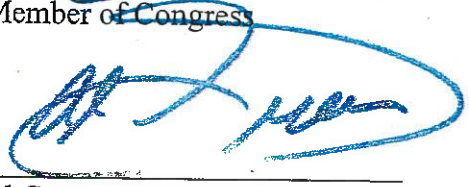
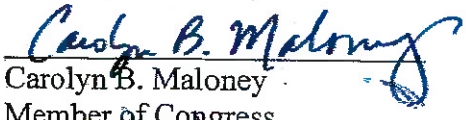


David Scott
Member of Congress

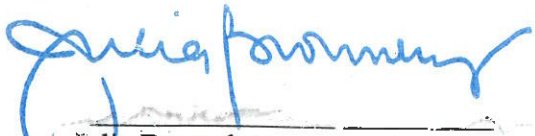


Al Green
Member of Congress

Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress



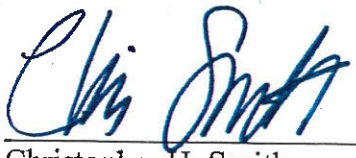
Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



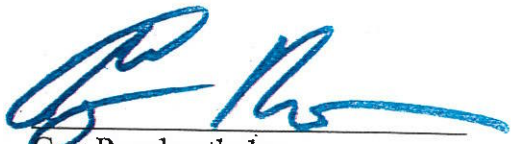
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress

Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



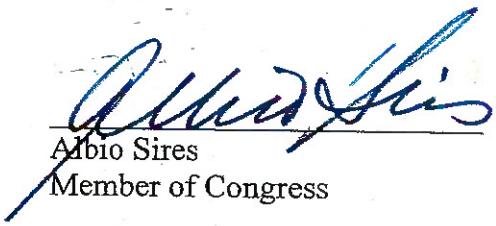
Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress



Guy Reschenthaler
Member of Congress

Cindy Axne
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



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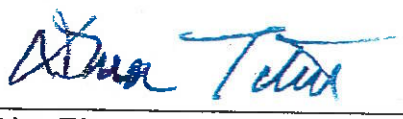
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
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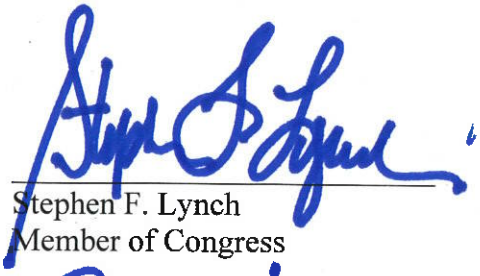
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress

A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress

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Member of Congress

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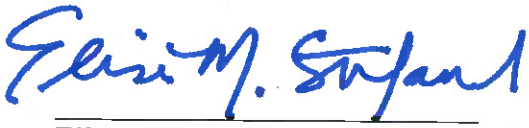
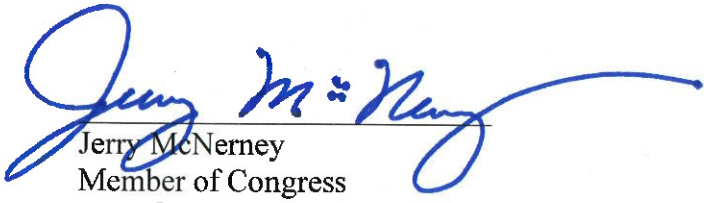
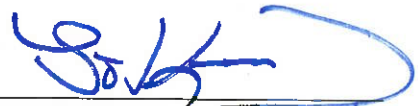
Member of Congress



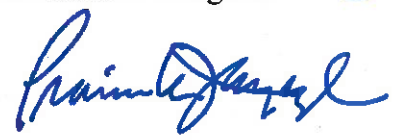
Elise M. Stefanik
Member of Congress



Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



Joseph P. Kennedy, III
Member of Congress



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Member of Congress

Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress

Filemon Vela
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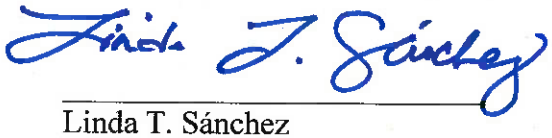
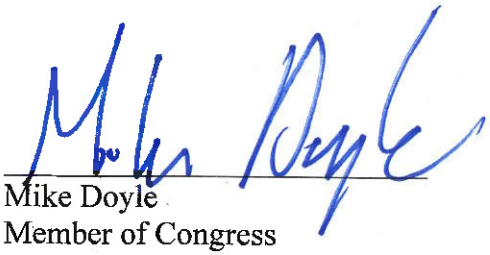
Member of Congress

Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress

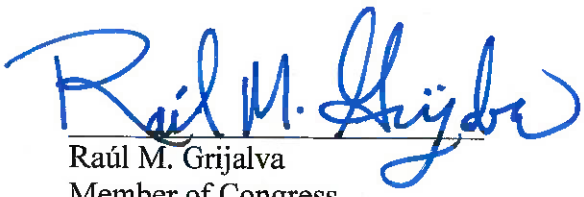


Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress

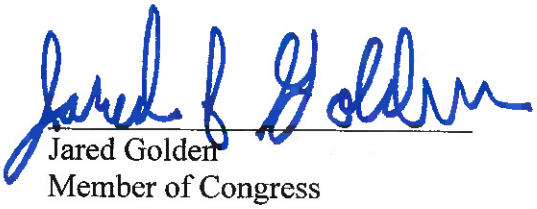
Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

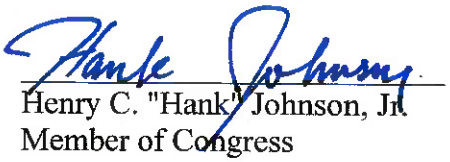


Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Jared Golden
Member of Congress

Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



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

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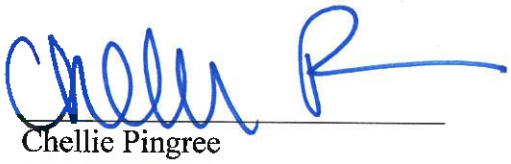
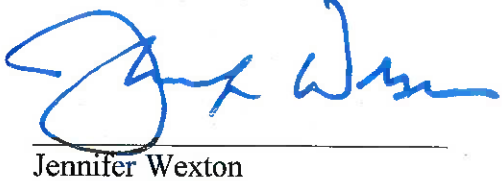
Member of Congress

Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress

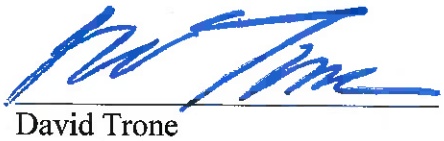
Scott Peters
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



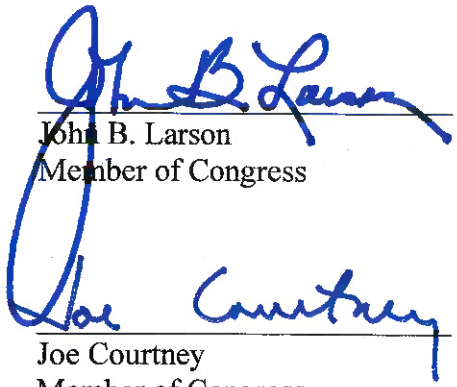
Jennifer Wexton
Member of Congress



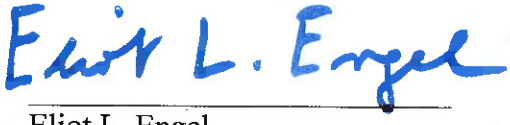
David Trone
Member of Congress

John B. Larson
Member of Congress

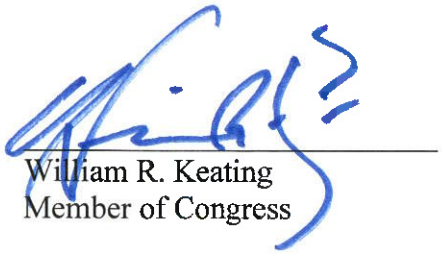
Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress

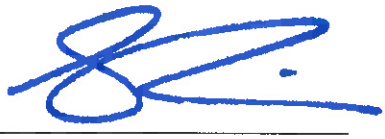
Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

Pete Olson
Member of Congress

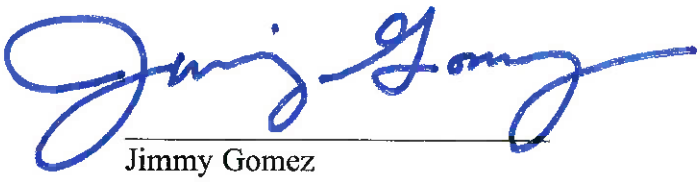
Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress

Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress

Denver Riggleman
Member of Congress



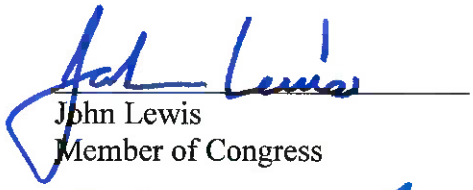
Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress



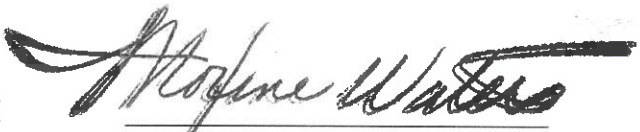
Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress

Steve Chabot
Member of Congress

Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



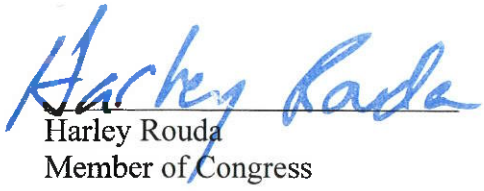
John Lewis
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress

Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress

Ben McAdams
Member of Congress

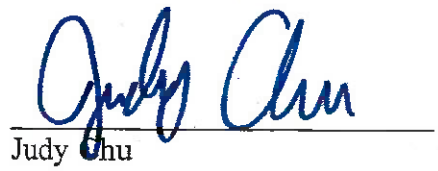


Harley Rouda
Member of Congress

Katie Porter
Member of Congress

Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress

Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress

Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress

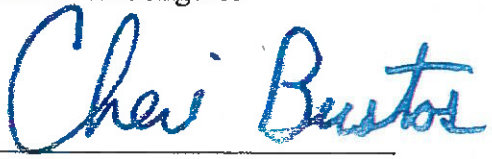
Jackie Speier
Member of Congress

TJ Cox
Member of Congress

Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress

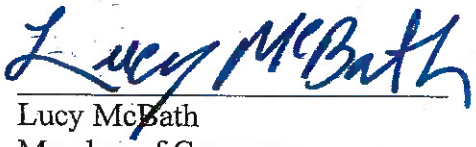
Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress

Brad Wenstrup, D.P.M.
Member of Congress



Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress

Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



Lucy McBath
Member of Congress

Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress

Greg Stanton
Member of Congress

C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger
Member of Congress

Pete Stauber
Member of Congress

Steven Horsford
Member of Congress

Jenniffer González-Colón
Member of Congress

Seth Moulton
Member of Congress

Steve Stivers
Member of Congress

Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress

Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress

Chris Pappas
Member of Congress

Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress

Troy Balderson
Member of Congress

Joe Cunningham
Member of Congress

G. K. Butterfield
Member of Congress

Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress

Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress

Jack Bergman
Member of Congress

Ami Bera, M.D.
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Member of Congress

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A. Drew Ferguson, IV
Member of Congress

Diana DeGette
Member of Congress

Adam Smith
Member of Congress

Conor Lamb
Member of Congress

Lee Zeldin
Member of Congress

Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress

Tom Malinowski
Member of Congress

Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

Andy Kim
Member of Congress

Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress

Kathy Castor
Member of Congress

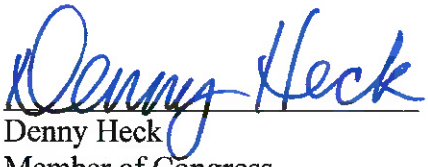
Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress

John Katko
Member of Congress

Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress

Mike Levin
Member of Congress

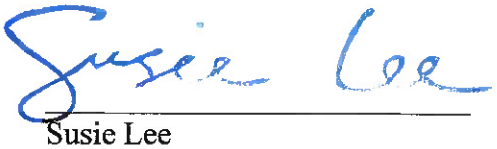
Stephanie Murphy
Member of Congress



Denny Heck
Member of Congress

Rob Woodall
Member of Congress

Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress



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Member of Congress

Mike Gallagher
Member of Congress

Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress

Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress

Lloyd Smucker
Member of Congress

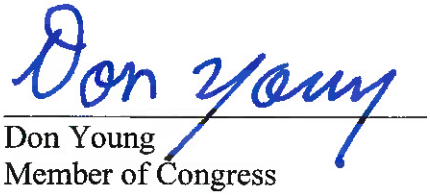
Ted S. Yoho, DVM
Member of Congress

Angie Craig
Member of Congress

Bill Flores
Member of Congress

Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress

Darren Soto
Member of Congress



Don Young
Member of Congress

Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress

Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress

Karen Bass
Member of Congress

Frank D. Lucas
Member of Congress

Doris Matsui
Member of Congress

Daniel P. Meuser
Member of Congress

J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress

Kendra S. Horn
Member of Congress

Joe Neguse
Member of Congress

Collin C. Peterson
Member of Congress

Al Lawson
Member of Congress

Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress

Max Rose
Member of Congress

Debbie Mucarsel-Powell
Member of Congress

Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress

Jim Costa
Member of Congress

Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress

Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress

Abigail D. Spanberger
Member of Congress

Donald Norcross
Member of Congress

Jason Crow
Member of Congress

Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress

Jim Himes
Member of Congress

Darin LaHood
Member of Congress

Elaine G. Luria
Member of Congress

Brad Sherman
Member of Congress

Peter Welch
Member of Congress

Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress

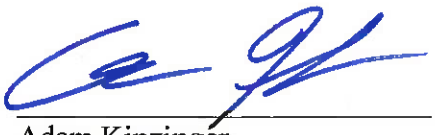
Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress

John Yarmuth
Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

Andy Barr
Member of Congress

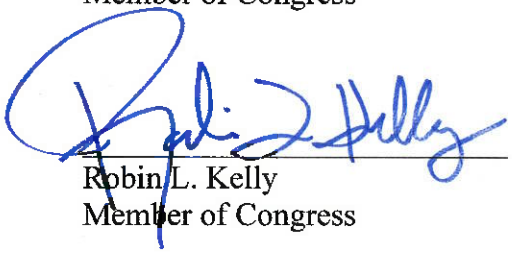
Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress



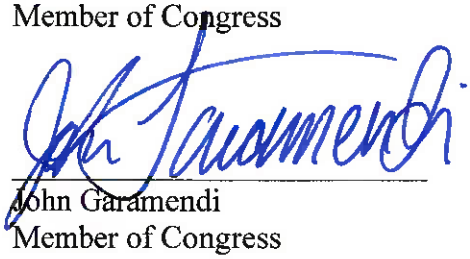
Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress

Donna E. Shalala
Member of Congress

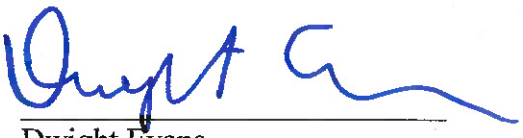
Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress

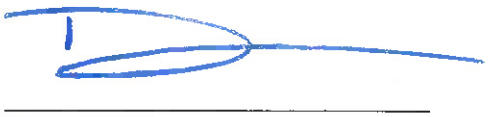


John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress

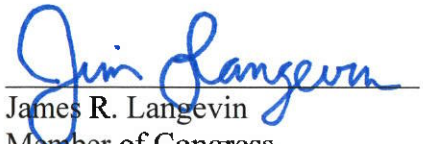
Frederica S Wilson
Member of Congress



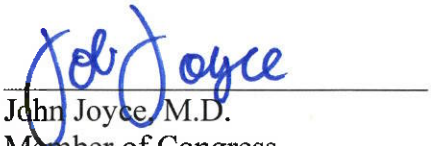
Dean Phillips
Member of Congress

Glenn "GT" Thompson
Member of Congress

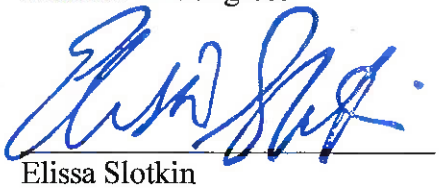
Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



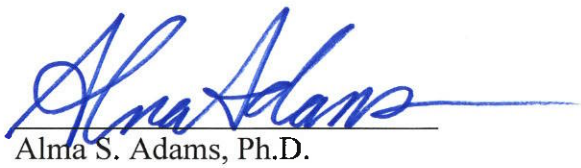
James R. Langevin
Member of Congress



John Joyce, M.D.
Member of Congress



Elissa Slotkin
Member of Congress



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

Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress

Ben Ray Luján
Member of Congress

Abby Finkenauer
Member of Congress

Richard Hudson
Member of Congress

Don Bacon
Member of Congress

Xochitl Torres Small
Member of Congress

Bryan Steil
Member of Congress

Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress

Fred Keller
Member of Congress

Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress