

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 22, 2010

The Honorable David Obey
Chairman, House Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Human Services, and Education
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Todd Tiahrt
Ranking Member, House Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services, and Education
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Tiahrt:


Thank you for your continued support for the World Trade Center (WTC) Health Programs, which are administered by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) under the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We know that there are many important priorities in your bill, and we are grateful for the funding you have provided over the years since the September 11, 2001 attacks.


The WTC Health Programs provide medical monitoring and treatment to WTC responders, survivors, and national responders whose health has been impacted from exposures to toxins in or around the WTC site in the aftermath of September 11th. We respectfully request that you include \$150 million—the same level as the President's request—in your Fiscal Year 2011 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill for the WTC Health Programs.

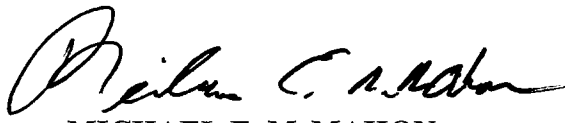
Specialized health programs like these need steady year-to-year funding to ensure continuation of care, maintain an expert staff, and have access to steady data for long-term research. That is why we are working so hard to pass H.R. 847, the *9/11 Health and Compensation Act*. The bill would provide capped mandatory funding for the health programs. The funding would be guaranteed every year and would not have to come out of your discretionary spending bill. Portions of the bill have already been approved by both the Judiciary Committee and the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health. We anticipate an Energy and Commerce Full Committee markup in the coming weeks and look forward to House passage in a timely manner.

Again, we thank you for your years of support for the WTC Health Programs, and we request that you include \$150 million in your subcommittee bill. It is our hope, however, that soon we will have permanent funding for the health programs that will care for our 9/11 responders and survivors for many years to come.

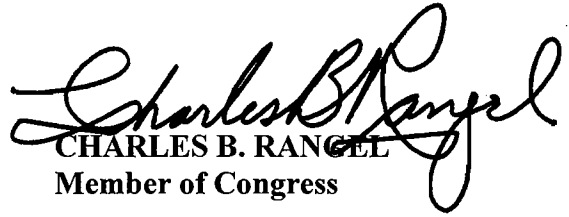
Sincerely,


CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress


JERROLD NADLER
Member of Congress



MICHAEL E. McMAHON
Member of Congress



CHARLES B. RANGEL
Member of Congress



MAURICE D. HINCHEY
Member of Congress



ELIOT L. ENGEL
Member of Congress



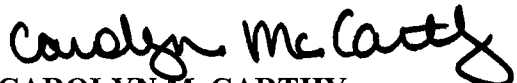
ANTHONY D. WEINER
Member of Congress



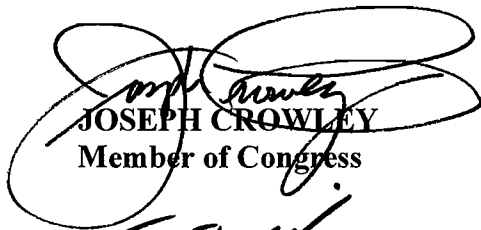
EDOLPHUS TOWNS
Member of Congress



NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ
Member of Congress



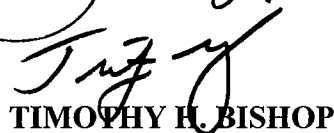
CAROLYN MCCARTHY
Member of Congress



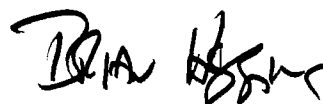
JOSEPH CROWLEY
Member of Congress



GREGORY W. MEEKS
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TIMOTHY H. BISHOP
Member of Congress



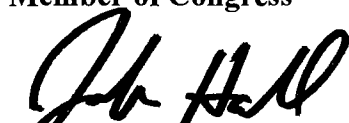
BRIAN HIGGINS
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MICHAEL A. ARCURI
Member of Congress




YVETTE D. CLARKE
Member of Congress



JOHN J. HALL
Member of Congress



PAUL TONKO
Member of Congress



WILLIAM L. OWENS
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Nita M. Lowey
The Honorable José E. Serrano