

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 5, 2009

The Honorable Barack H. Obama  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

We write in strong support of the U.S.-Republic of Korea alliance, and as you prepare for any meetings with Republic of Korea President Lee Myung-bak and for the APEC Summit this fall, we urge you to prepare the U.S.-South Korea Free Trade Agreement ("KORUS") for Congressional consideration.

We understand that there are still some concerns with the agreement and we urge your Administration to engage with South Korea to resolve these matters. Such action would be consistent with your Joint Vision Statement with President Lee from June 2009 in which you both "committed to working together to chart a way forward" for KORUS.

We agree with your assertion at the Pittsburgh G-20 meeting that trade liberalization is a precursor to global economic growth. We also agree that trade, especially when fair and with a close trading partner, is integral to our economic recovery strategy. South Korea is the world's 14th largest economy and is already our seventh largest trading partner. KORUS is the most economically beneficial trade agreement the United States has negotiated in fifteen years. The U.S. International Trade Commission projects that implementation of KORUS would increase U.S. GDP by \$10 to \$12 billion. Furthermore, preparing KORUS for Congressional consideration would continue our partnership with a democratic ally that has a strong record on labor rights and environmental protection. Moreover, KORUS can be an important part of the Administration's effort to reengage Asia.

We also commend your joint efforts with President Lee Myung-bak to address the security challenges on the Korean peninsula. We believe KORUS will bolster those efforts and enhance our strategic alliance. Finally, we are concerned about the potential impact on U.S. competitiveness and jobs by not moving forward on KORUS.

We support your efforts to deepen bilateral ties between the U.S. and South Korea, and encourage you to prepare KORUS for consideration by Congress.

Sincerely,



Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



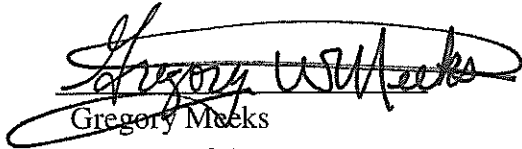
Dave Reichert  
Member of Congress



Diane Watson  
Member of Congress



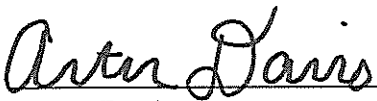
Kevin Brady  
Member of Congress



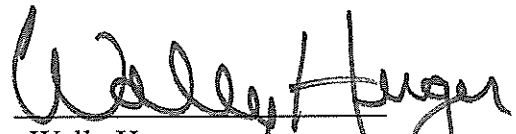
Gregory Meeks  
Member of Congress



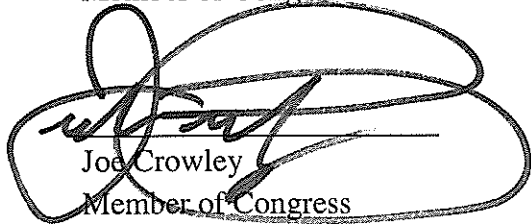
Eric Cantor  
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Artur Davis  
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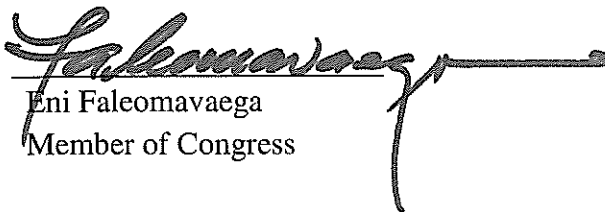
Wally Herger  
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Joe Crowley  
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Sam Johnson  
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Eni Faleomavaega  
Member of Congress



Geoff Davis  
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Henry Cuellar  
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Mike Ross  
Member of Congress



Ron Kind  
Member of Congress



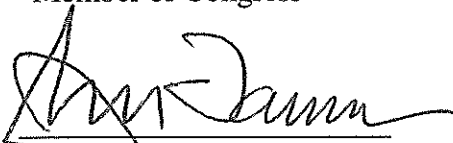
Jim Matheson  
Member of Congress



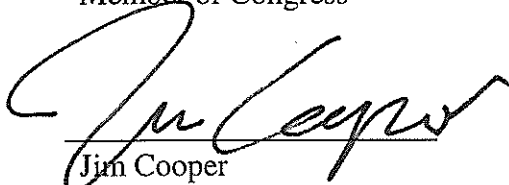
Madeleine Bordallo  
Member of Congress



Mike McMahon  
Member of Congress



John Farnsworth  
Member of Congress



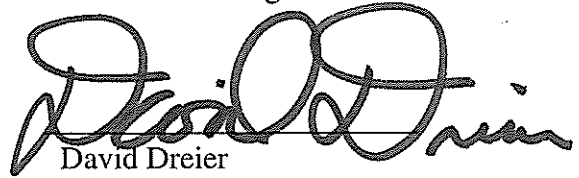
Jim Cooper  
Member of Congress



Devin Nunes  
Member of Congress



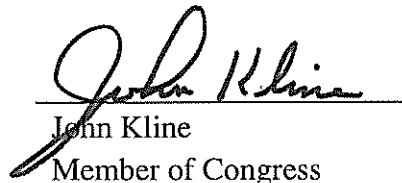
Charles Boustany  
Member of Congress




David Dreier  
Member of Congress



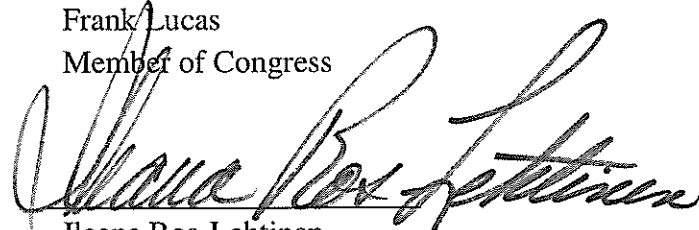
H.P. "Buck" McKeon  
Member of Congress



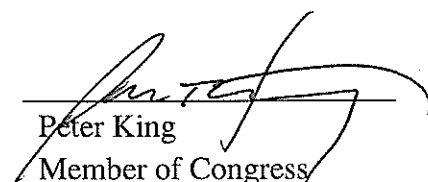
John Kline  
Member of Congress



Frank Lucas  
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Ileana Ros-Lehtinen  
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Melissa J. Bean  
Melissa Bean  
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Doc Hastings  
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Glen Nye  
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Darrell Issa  
Darrell Issa  
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Norm Dicks  
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Pete Sessions  
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Loretta Sanchez  
Loretta Sanchez  
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Bob Goodlatte  
Bob Goodlatte  
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Gary Ackerman  
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Judy Biggert

Judy Biggert  
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Dan Burton

Dan Burton  
Member of Congress

Mark Kirk

Mark Kirk  
Member of Congress

Tim Johnson

Tim Johnson  
Member of Congress

John Boozman

John Boozman  
Member of Congress

Jeff Hensarling

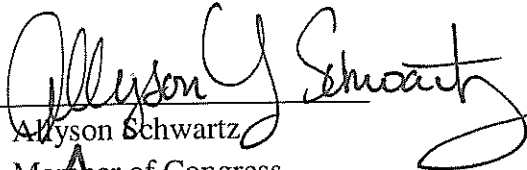
Jeff Hensarling  
Member of Congress


Mike Conaway

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Member of Congress

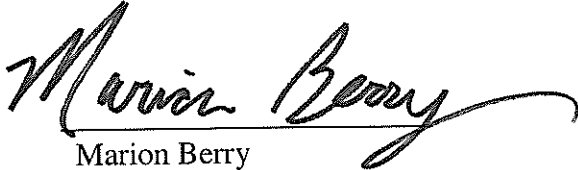
Randy Neugebauer

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Member of Congress

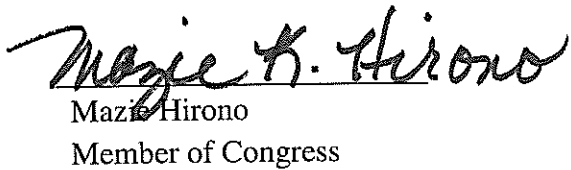
  
Allyson Schwartz  
Member of Congress



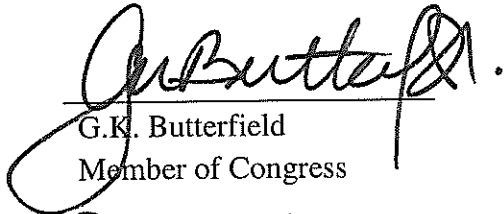
Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



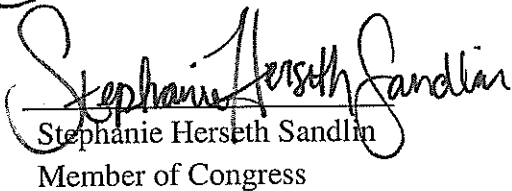
Marion Berry  
Member of Congress



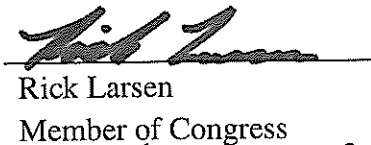
Mazie Hirono  
Member of Congress



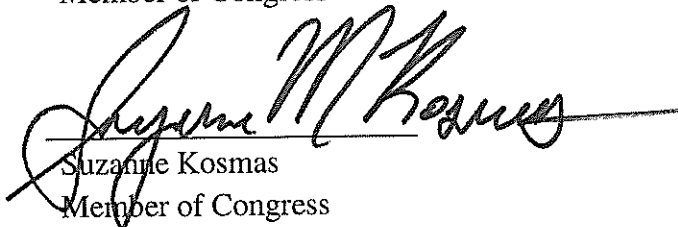
G.K. Butterfield  
Member of Congress



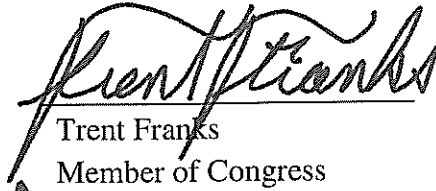
Stephanie Herseth Sandlin  
Member of Congress



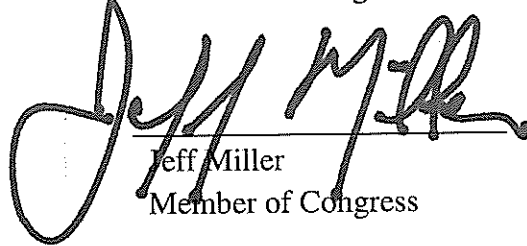
Rick Larsen  
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Suzanne Kosmas  
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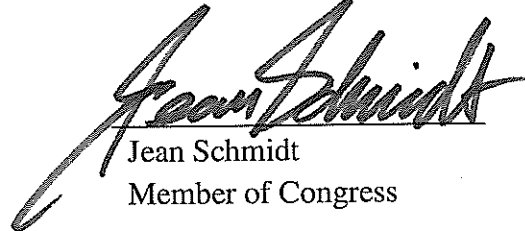
Trent Franks  
Member of Congress



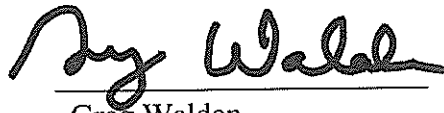
Jeff Miller  
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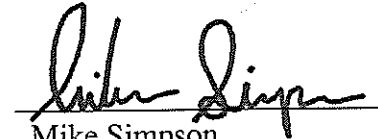
Scott Garrett  
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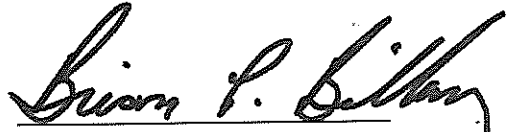
Jean Schmidt  
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Greg Walden  
Member of Congress



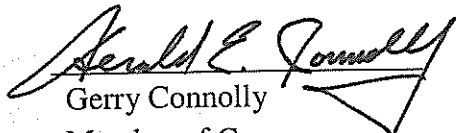
Mike Simpson  
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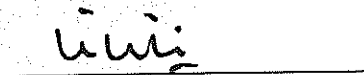
Brian Bilbray  
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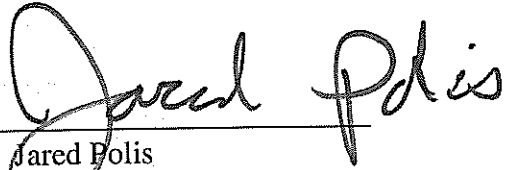


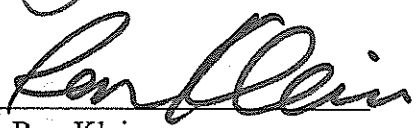
Adrian Smith  
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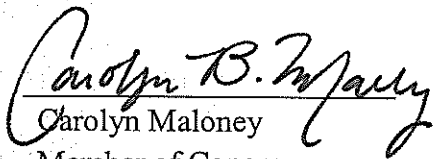
  
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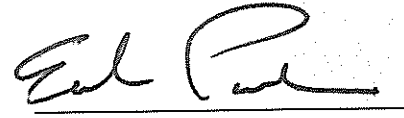
  
Jay Inslee  
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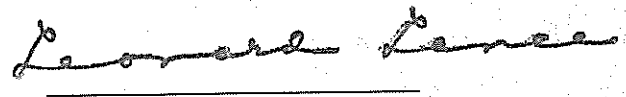
  
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Jared Polis  
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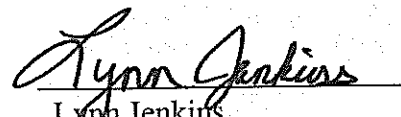
  
Ron Klein  
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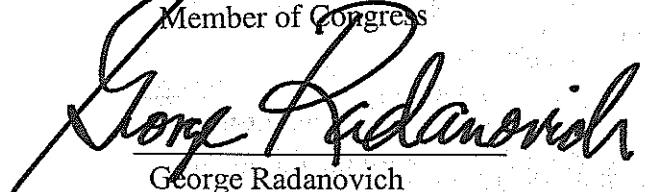
  
Carolyn Maloney  
Member of Congress

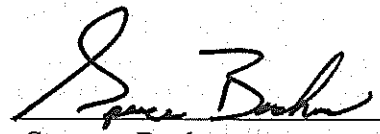
  
Erik Paulsen  
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Leonard Lance  
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Aaron Schock  
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Lynn Jenkins  
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George Radanovich  
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