

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1317

July 25, 2014

The Honorable Harry Reid
Senate Majority Leader
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Reid and Speaker Boehner,

We, the undersigned Members of Congress, urge you to not let the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives go out of session prior to a successful resolution to the Conference Committee that was formed to work out a compromise between the Senate and House versions of the *Veteran Access to Care Act*, and its subsequent passage in both chambers of Congress.

The health of the veterans who have served us so bravely should not be placed on the back burner while Congress is away during the August district work period. Our veterans have served the nation with honor, and we owe it to them to waste no more time in ensuring they have access to the best health care possible. In light of recent serious complications and allegations of wrong-doing within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in addition to validated long wait times at VA medical facilities, it is extremely urgent that a fix be put into place as soon as possible.

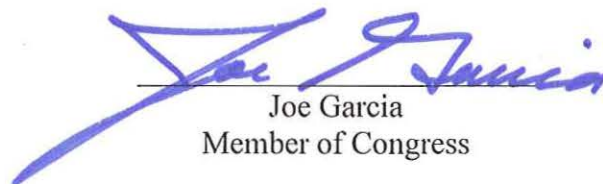
Both the Senate and House versions would expand veterans' ability to seek care at non-VA facilities under certain conditions, strengthen Congress' oversight of the VA and eliminate performance-related bonuses for VA employees. We need to address the overwhelmed VA and ensure all veterans get the care they have earned through their service to our country. Our veterans deserve nothing but the very best.

Again, this issue is far too serious to wait, and we encourage a swift resolution to be found by remaining in session until a suitable compromise bill can be passed out of both chambers. Let's put our nations' veterans, who have sacrificed so much for our freedoms, first.

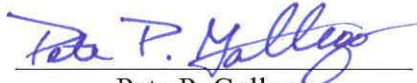
Sincerely,



Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



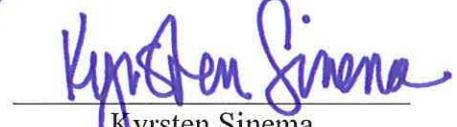
Joe Garcia
Member of Congress



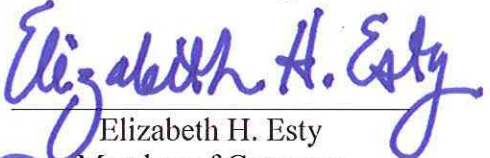
Pete P. Gallego
Member of Congress



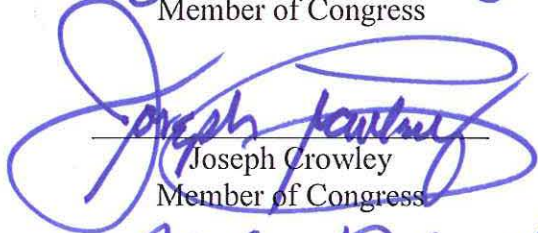
Janice Hahn
Member of Congress



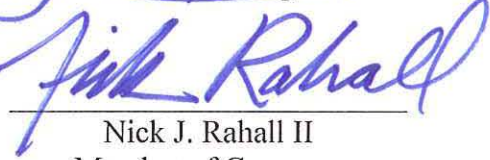
Kyrsten Sinema
Member of Congress




Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress



Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress



Nick J. Rahall II
Member of Congress



Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress



Collin C. Peterson
Member of Congress



Richard M. Nolan
Member of Congress



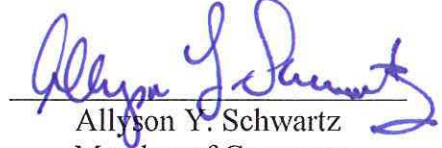
Ron Barber
Member of Congress



Grace Meng
Member of Congress



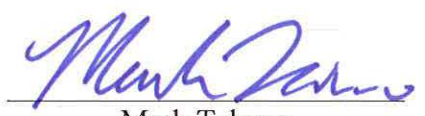
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



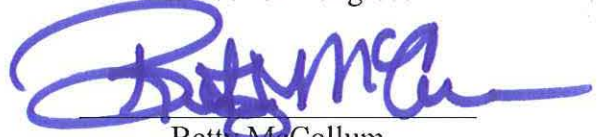
Allyson Y. Schwartz
Member of Congress



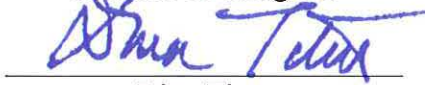
Ann Kirkpatrick
Member of Congress




Mark Takano
Member of Congress



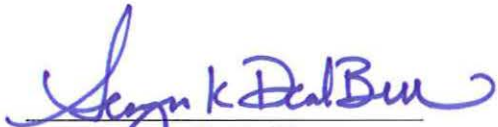
Betty McCollum
Member of Congress




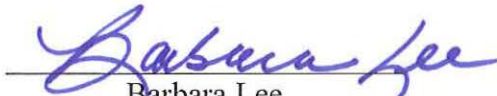
Dina Titus
Member of Congress




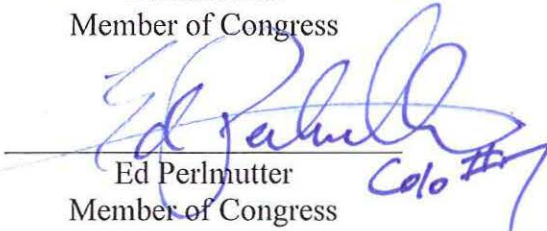
Michelle Lujan Grisham
Member of Congress

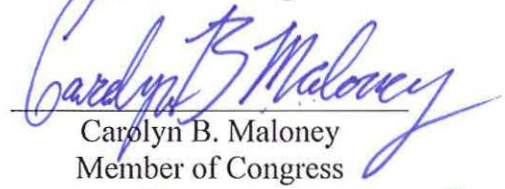

Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress

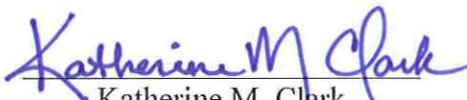

Ann M. Kuster
Member of Congress

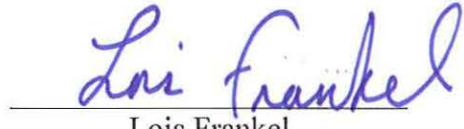

Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

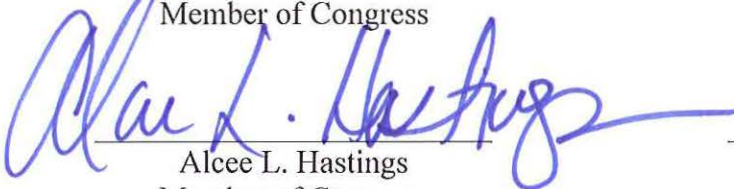

Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress

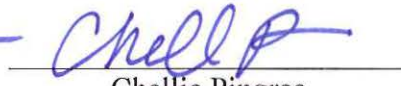

Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress


Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress


Katherine M. Clark
Member of Congress

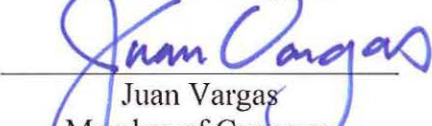

Lois Frankel
Member of Congress

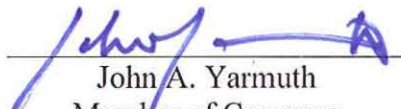

Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress


Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

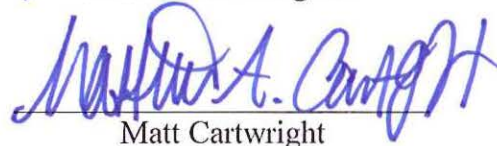

Jackie Speier
Member of Congress



Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress

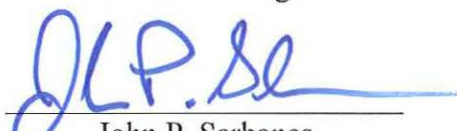

Juan Vargas
Member of Congress


John A. Yarmuth
Member of Congress


C. A. Dutch Ruppberger
Member of Congress


Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress


Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress


John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz
Member of Congress



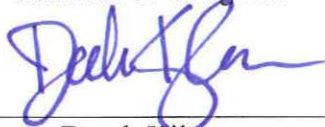
Carol Shea-Porter
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



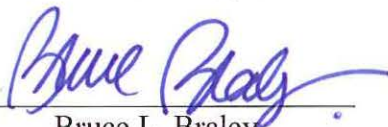
Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



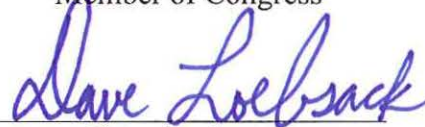
Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress



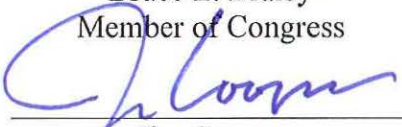
Lois Capps
Member of Congress



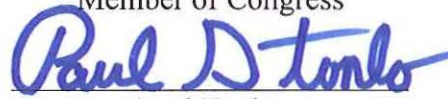
Bruce L. Braley
Member of Congress



Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress



Jim Cooper
Member of Congress



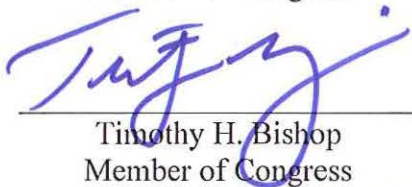
Paul Tonko
Member of Congress



Beto O'Rourke
Member of Congress



Daniel Lipinski
Member of Congress



Timothy H. Bishop
Member of Congress



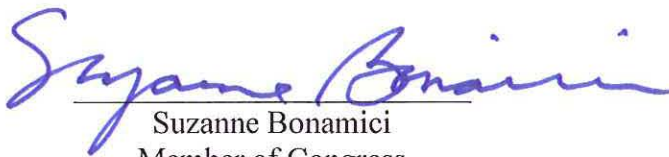
Alan S. Lowenthal
Member of Congress



G. K. Butterfield
Member of Congress



Patrick Murphy
Member of Congress



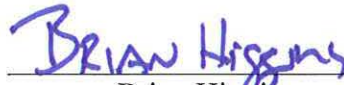
Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



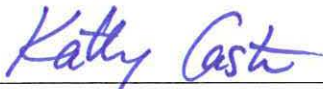
Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



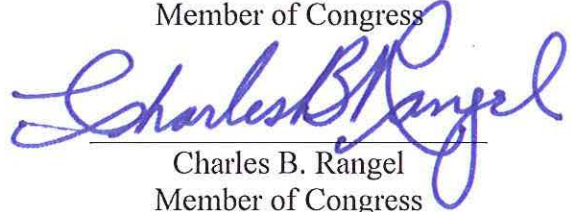
Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



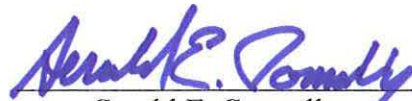
Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



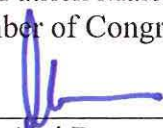
Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress



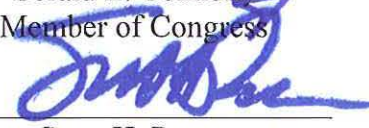
Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



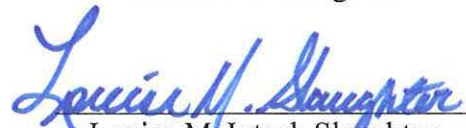
Ami Bera
Member of Congress



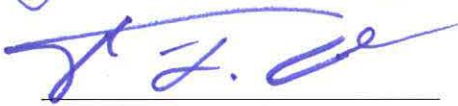
Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



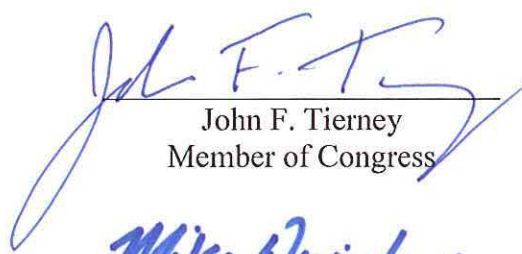
Janice D. Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Louise McIntosh Slaughter
Member of Congress



Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress



John F. Tierney
Member of Congress



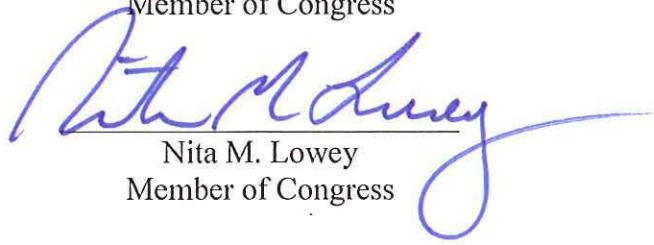
Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



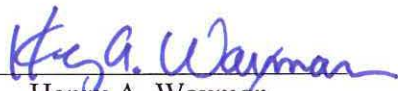
Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



John Barrow
Member of Congress



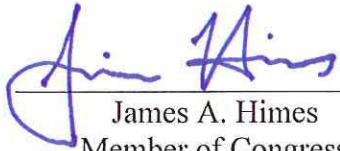
Nita M. Lowey
Member of Congress



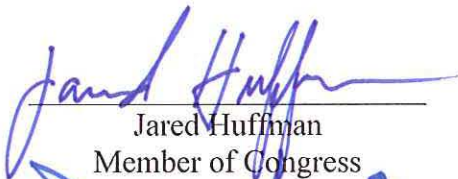
Henry A. Waxman
Member of Congress



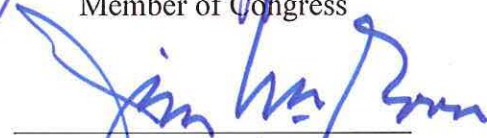
Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress



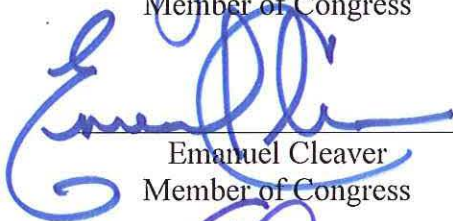
James A. Himes
Member of Congress



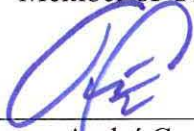
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



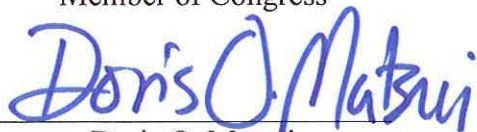
Emanuel Cleaver
Member of Congress



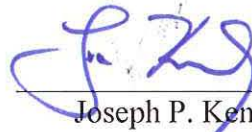
André Carson
Member of Congress



Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress



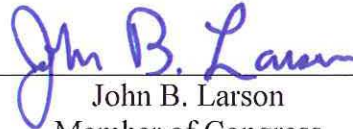
Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress



Joseph P. Kennedy III
Member of Congress



Theodore E. Deutch
Member of Congress



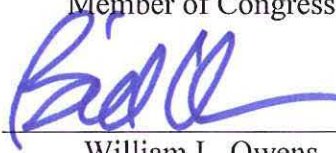
John B. Larson
Member of Congress



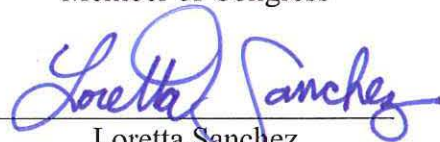
Corrine Brown
Member of Congress



Tammy Duckworth
Member of Congress



William L. Owens
Member of Congress



Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress



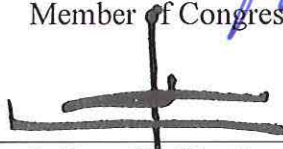
Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



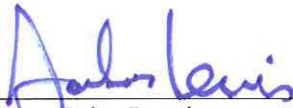
Daniel B. Maffei
Member of Congress



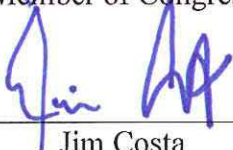
Colleen W. Hanabusa
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



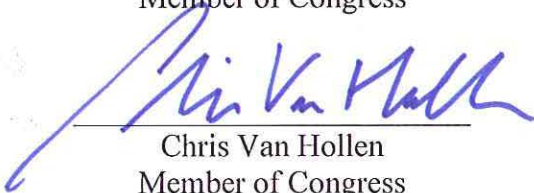
John Lewis
Member of Congress



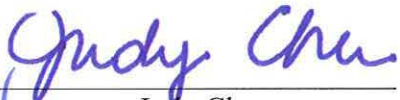
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



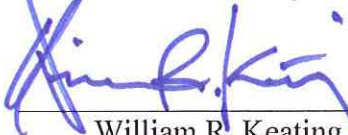
Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



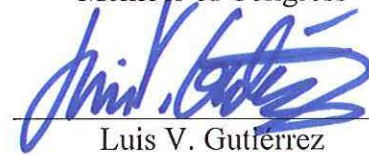
Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



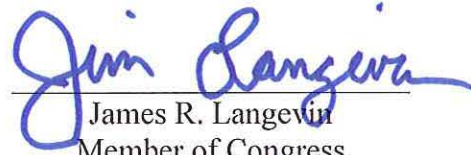
Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



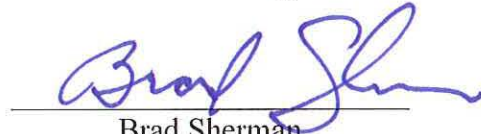
Luis V. Gutierrez
Member of Congress



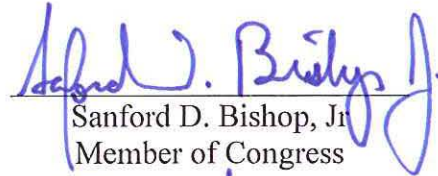
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



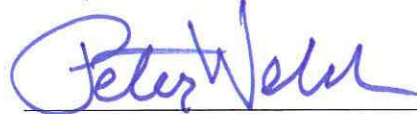
James R. Langevin
Member of Congress



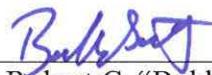
Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



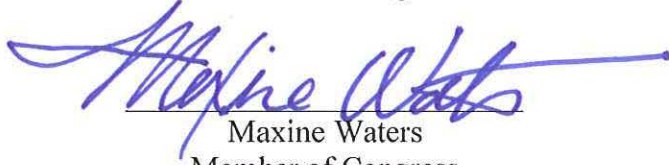
Peter Welch
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



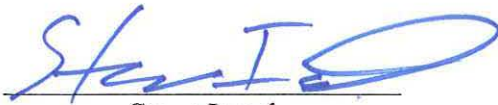
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



Steve Israel
Member of Congress



Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress