

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 6, 2014

Mr. Roger Goodell
Commissioner
National Football League
345 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10154

Dear Commissioner Goodell:

As Members of Congress committed to advocating for victims and survivors of crime, we call on the National Football League (NFL) to take a strong stand to prevent and respond effectively to domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and all violent crimes.

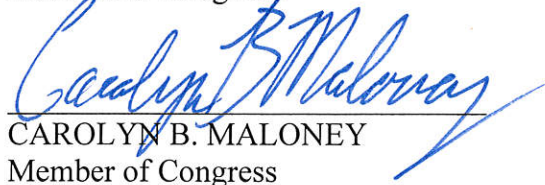
As you know, recent allegations of professional athletes committing these heinous crimes have resulted in an important national dialogue about violence against women and children in America. The truth of the matter is that domestic violence, sexual assault, and abuse are daily, painful realities for many women and children across our nation. When these vicious crimes are not properly addressed and when offenders are not held accountable, the cycles of violence continue, victims remain in constant jeopardy and fear, and the very lives of women and children are at stake.

We urge you in the strongest possible terms to use your profound platform to move our society toward a future where violence against women and children is not acceptable. This begins by conducting a full review of the NFL's policies regarding domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. During such a review, we urge you to meet with crime victims and survivors, experts in the field of victims' rights, and victim advocates, who are eager to assist you. By ensuring that the NFL's policies and practices take the strongest possible stand against these crimes, everyone in America will understand that no one who commits violence against women and children can get away with it.

The late Coach Vince Lombardi said, "The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual." When the NFL's leadership, management and players join together to combat violence against women and children in America, the ultimate achievement will be a nation where it is simply no longer tolerated.



JIM COSTA
Member of Congress

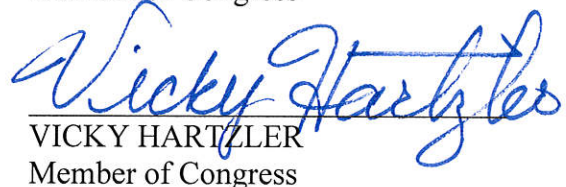


CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress

Sincerely,



TED POE
Member of Congress



VICKY HARTZLER
Member of Congress

Kurt Schrader

KURT SCHRADER
Member of Congress

Ann McLane Kuster

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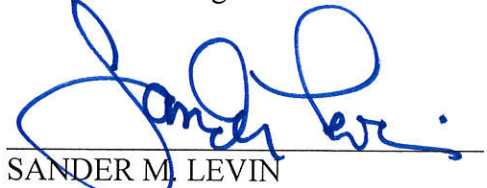
LOIS FRANKEL
Member of Congress



EARL BLUMENAUER
Member of Congress



SAM FARR
Member of Congress



SANDER M. LEVIN
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KYRSTEN SINEMA
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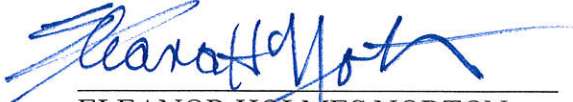
KATHERINE CLARK
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STEPHEN F. LYNCH
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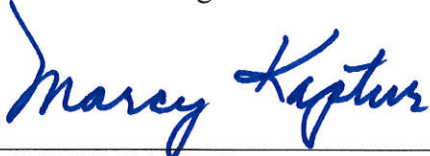
PETER DeFAZIO
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ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
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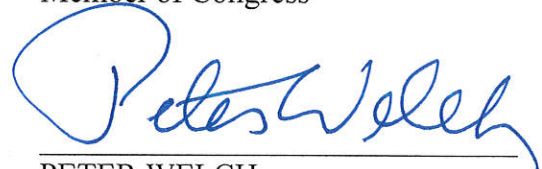
GWEN MOORE
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JAMES P. MORAN
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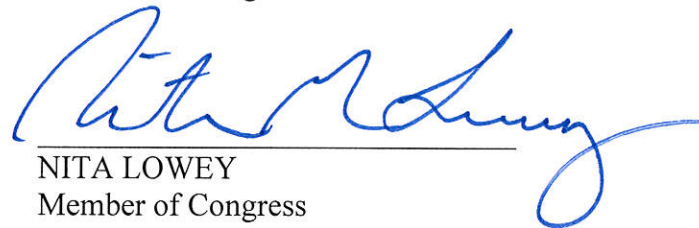
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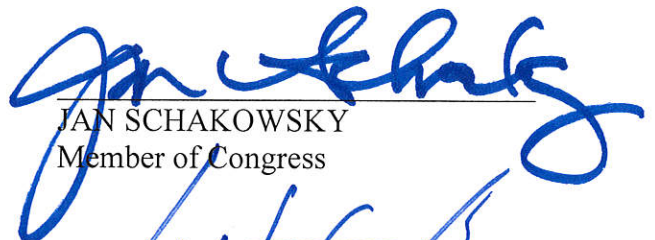
ALCEE L. HASTINGS
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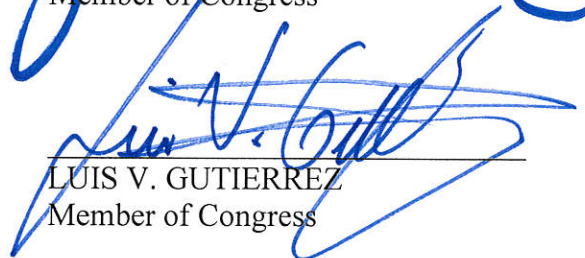
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BEN RAY LUJÁN
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LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 6, 2014

Allan H. (Bud) Selig
Commissioner
Major League Baseball
245 Park Avenue, 31st Floor
New York, NY 10167

Dear Commissioner Selig:

As Members of Congress committed to advocating for victims and survivors of crime, we call on Major League Baseball (MLB) to take a strong stand to prevent and respond effectively to domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and all violent crimes.

As you know, recent allegations of professional athletes committing these heinous crimes have resulted in an important national dialogue about violence against women and children in America. The truth of the matter is that domestic violence, sexual assault, and abuse are daily, painful realities for many women and children across our nation. When these vicious crimes are not properly addressed and when offenders are not held accountable, the cycles of violence continue, victims remain in constant jeopardy and fear, and the very lives of women and children are at stake.

We urge you in the strongest possible terms to use your profound platform to move our society toward a future where violence against women and children is not acceptable. This begins by conducting a full review of MLB's policies regarding domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. During such a review, we urge you to meet with crime victims and survivors, experts in the field of victims' rights, and victim advocates, who are eager to assist you. By ensuring that MLB's policies and practices take the strongest possible stand against these crimes, everyone in America will understand that no one who commits violence against women and children can get away with it.

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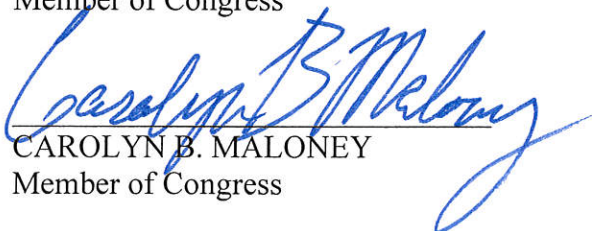


JIM COSTA
Member of Congress

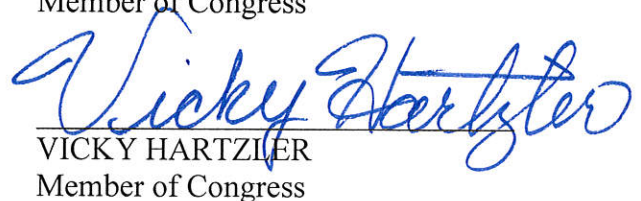
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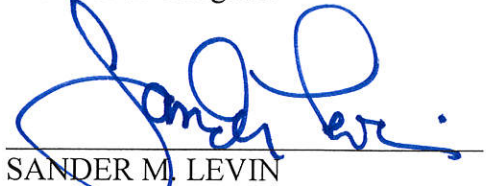
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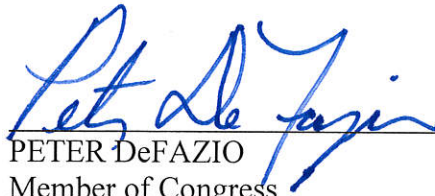
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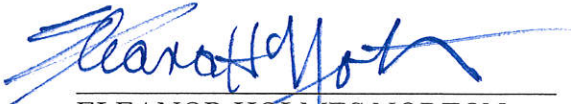
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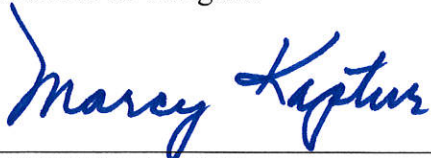
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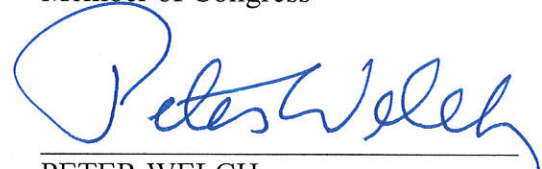
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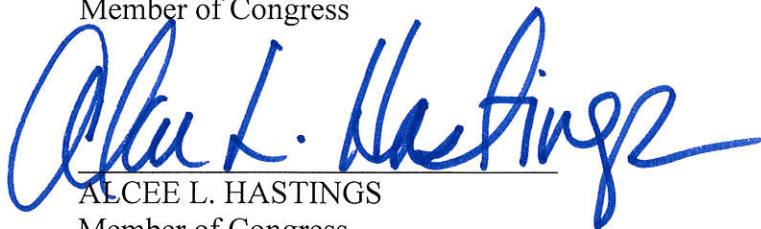
JAMES P. MORAN
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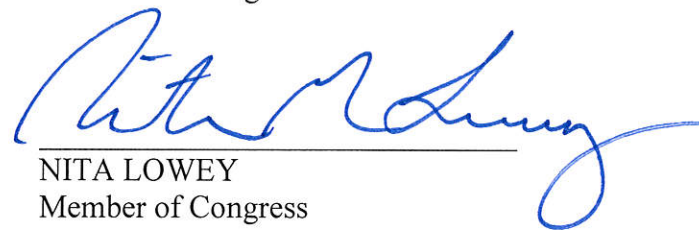
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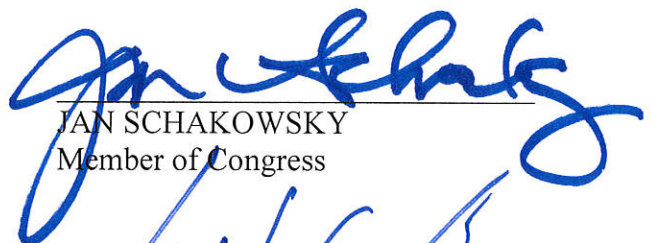
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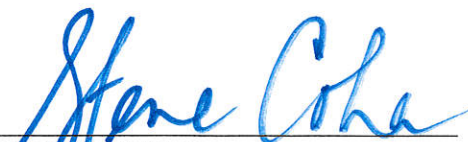
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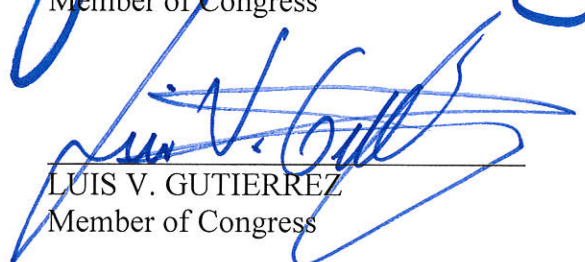
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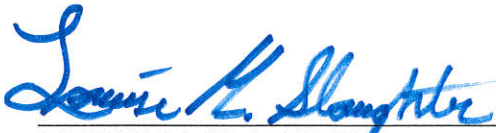
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TRENT FRANKS
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BEN RAY LUJÁN
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Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 6, 2014

Adam Silver
Commissioner
National Basketball Association
645 Fifth Ave
New York, NY 10022

Dear Commissioner Silver:

As Members of Congress committed to advocating for victims and survivors of crime, we call on the National Basketball Association (NBA) to take a strong stand to prevent and respond effectively to domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and all violent crimes.

As you know, recent allegations of professional athletes committing these heinous crimes have resulted in an important national dialogue about violence against women and children in America. The truth of the matter is that domestic violence, sexual assault, and abuse are daily, painful realities for many women and children across our nation. When these vicious crimes are not properly addressed and when offenders are not held accountable, the cycles of violence continue, victims remain in constant jeopardy and fear, and the very lives of women and children are at stake.

We urge you in the strongest possible terms to use your profound platform to move our society toward a future where violence against women and children is not acceptable. This begins by conducting a full review of the NBA's policies regarding domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. During such a review, we urge you to meet with crime victims and survivors, experts in the field of victims' rights, and victim advocates, who are eager to assist you. By ensuring that the NBA's policies and practices take the strongest possible stand against these crimes, everyone in America will understand that no one who commits violence against women and children can get away with it.

The late Coach Vince Lombardi said, "The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual." When the NBA's leadership, management and players join together to combat violence against women and children in America, the ultimate achievement will be a nation where it is simply no longer tolerated.

Sincerely,



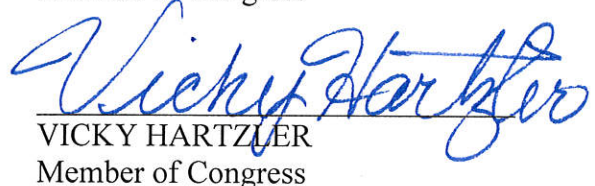
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Member of Congress



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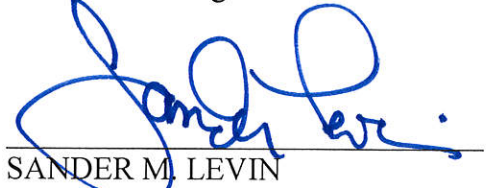
LOIS FRANKEL
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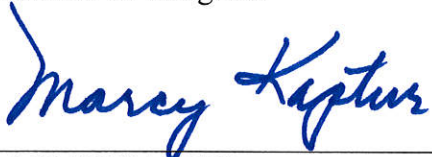
PETER DeFAZIO
Member of Congress



ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
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MARCY KAPTUR
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MAXINE WATERS
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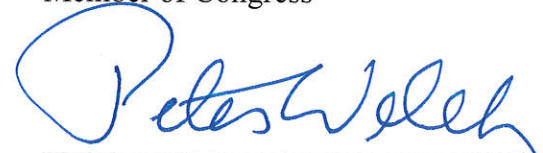
GWEN MOORE
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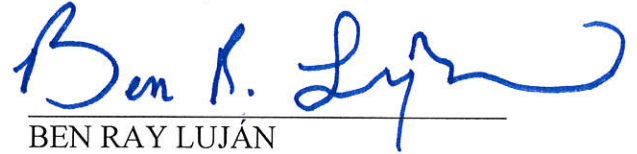
SCOTT PETERS
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LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 6, 2014

Gary Bettman
Commissioner
National Hockey League
1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036

Dear Commissioner Bettman:

As Members of Congress committed to advocating for victims and survivors of crime, we call on the National Hockey League (NHL) to take a strong stand to prevent and respond effectively to domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and all violent crimes.

As you know, recent allegations of professional athletes committing these heinous crimes have resulted in an important national dialogue about violence against women and children in America. The truth of the matter is that domestic violence, sexual assault, and abuse are daily, painful realities for many women and children across our nation. When these vicious crimes are not properly addressed and when offenders are not held accountable, the cycles of violence continue, victims remain in constant jeopardy and fear, and the very lives of women and children are at stake.

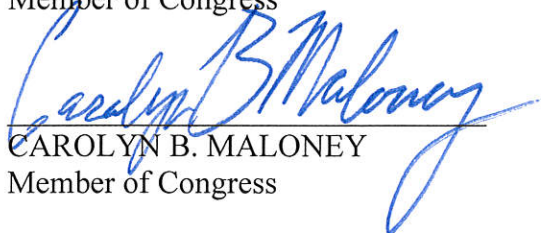
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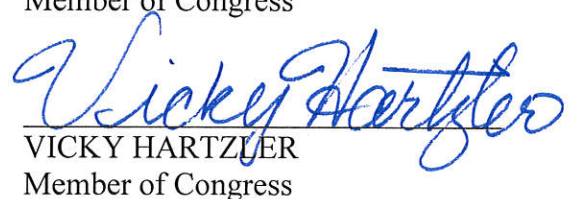
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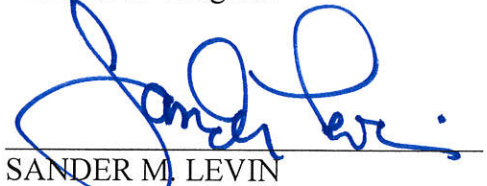
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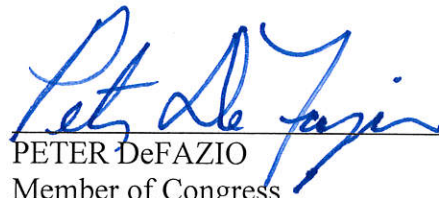
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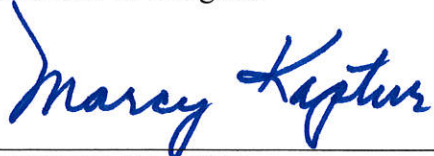
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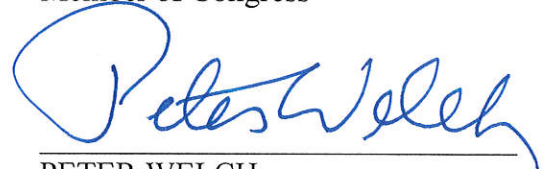
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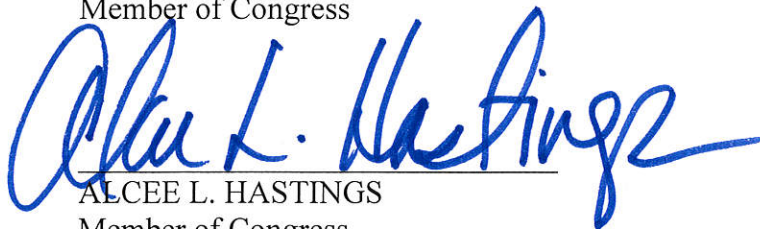
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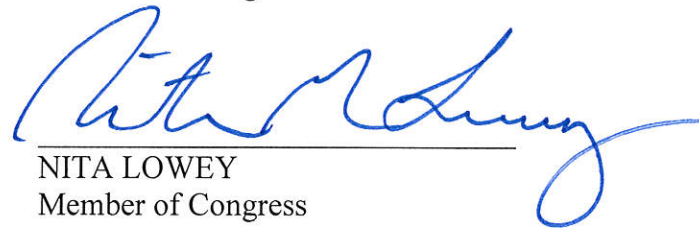
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PETER WELCH
Member of Congress



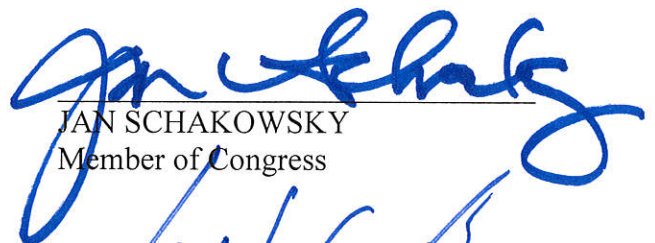
ALCEE L. HASTINGS
Member of Congress



NITA LOWEY
Member of Congress



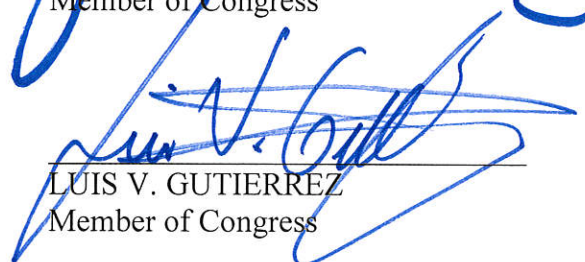
SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO
Member of Congress



JAN SCHAKOWSKY
Member of Congress



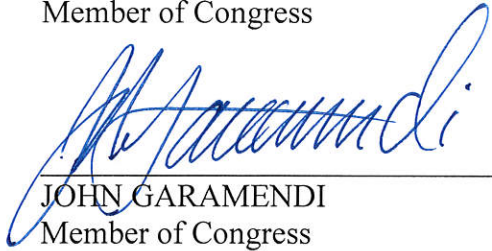
STEVE COHEN
Member of Congress



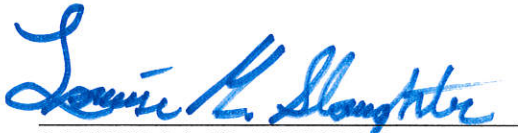
LUIS V. GUTIERREZ
Member of Congress



SCOTT PETERS
Member of Congress



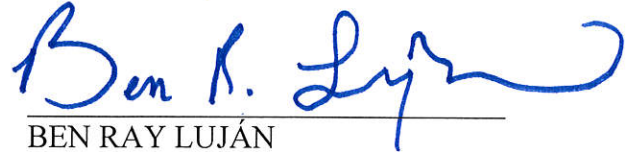
JOHN GARAMENDI
Member of Congress



LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER
Member of Congress



TRENT FRANKS
Member of Congress



BEN RAY LUJÁN
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 6, 2014

Don Garber
Commissioner
Major League Soccer
420 Fifth Avenue, 7th Floor
New York, NY 10018

Dear Commissioner Garber:

As Members of Congress committed to advocating for victims and survivors of crime, we call on Major League Soccer (MLS) to take a strong stand to prevent and respond effectively to domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and all violent crimes.

As you know, recent allegations of professional athletes committing these heinous crimes have resulted in an important national dialogue about violence against women and children in America. The truth of the matter is that domestic violence, sexual assault, and abuse are daily, painful realities for many women and children across our nation. When these vicious crimes are not properly addressed and when offenders are not held accountable, the cycles of violence continue, victims remain in constant jeopardy and fear, and the very lives of women and children are at stake.

We urge you in the strongest possible terms to use your profound platform to move our society toward a future where violence against women and children is not acceptable. This begins by conducting a full review of MLS's policies regarding domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse. During such a review, we urge you to meet with crime victims and survivors, experts in the field of victims' rights, and victim advocates, who are eager to assist you. By ensuring that MLS's policies and practices take the strongest possible stand against these crimes, everyone in America will understand that no one who commits violence against women and children can get away with it.

The late Coach Vince Lombardi said, "The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual." When MLS's leadership, management and players join together to combat violence against women and children in America, the ultimate achievement will be a nation where it is simply no longer tolerated.

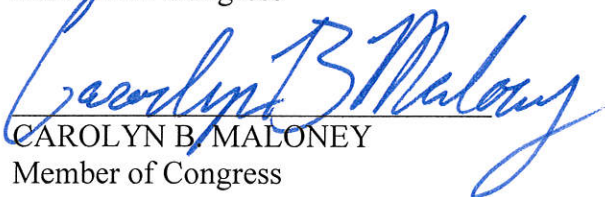


JIM COSTA
Member of Congress

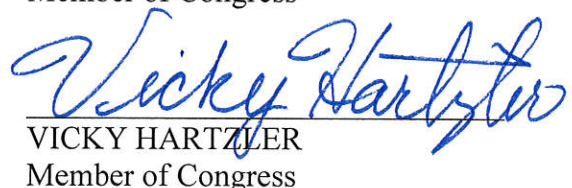
Sincerely,



TED POE
Member of Congress



CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress



VICKY HARTZLER
Member of Congress

Kurt Schrader

KURT SCHRADER
Member of Congress

Ann McLane Kuster

ANN McLANE KUSTER
Member of Congress

Kathy Castor

KATHY CASTOR
Member of Congress

Colleen Hanabusa

COLLEEN HANABUSA
Member of Congress

Timothy Bishop

TIMOTHY BISHOP
Member of Congress

Mark Pocan

MARK POCAN
Member of Congress

William R. Keating

WILLIAM R. KEATING
Member of Congress

Suzan DelBene

SUZAN DELBENE
Member of Congress

John Lewis

JOHN LEWIS
Member of Congress

Dina Titus

DINA TITUS
Member of Congress

Jackie Walorski

JACKIE WALORSKI
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern

JAMES P. McGOVERN
Member of Congress

Eric Swalwell

ERIC SWALWELL
Member of Congress

Alan Lowenthal

ALAN LOWENTHAL
Member of Congress

Ted Deutch

TED DEUTCH
Member of Congress

Jim McDermott

JIM McDERMOTT
Member of Congress



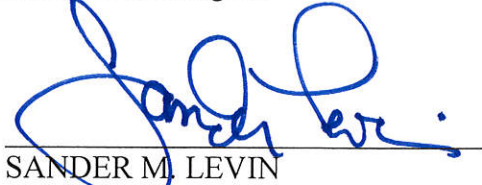
LOIS FRANKEL
Member of Congress



EARL BLUMENAUER
Member of Congress



SAM FARR
Member of Congress




SANDER M. LEVIN
Member of Congress



KYRSTEN SINEMA
Member of Congress



ZOE LOFGREN
Member of Congress



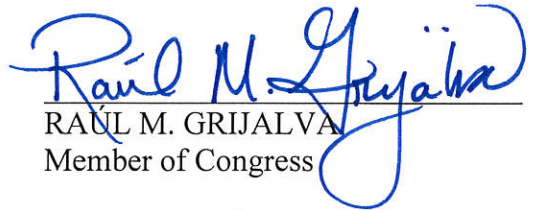
TIM RYAN
Member of Congress



DEREK KILMER
Member of Congress



JOE GARCIA
Member of Congress



RAUL M. GRIJALVA
Member of Congress



JUDY CHU
Member of Congress



JUAN VARGAS
Member of Congress



MICHAEL M. HONDA
Member of Congress



BETTY MCCOLLUM
Member of Congress



MICHAEL H. MICHAUD
Member of Congress



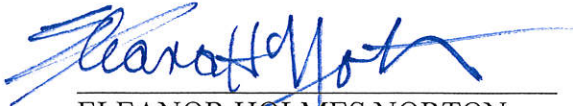
KATHERINE CLARK
Member of Congress



STEPHEN F. LYNCH
Member of Congress



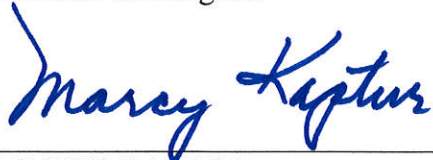
PETER DeFAZIO
Member of Congress



ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
Member of Congress



SHEILA JACKSON LEE
Member of Congress



MARCY KAPTUR
Member of Congress



MAXINE WATERS
Member of Congress



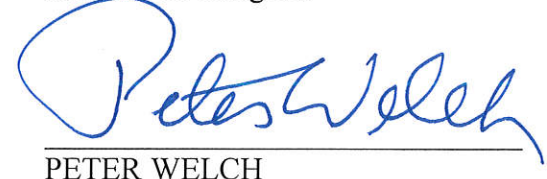
GWEN MOORE
Member of Congress



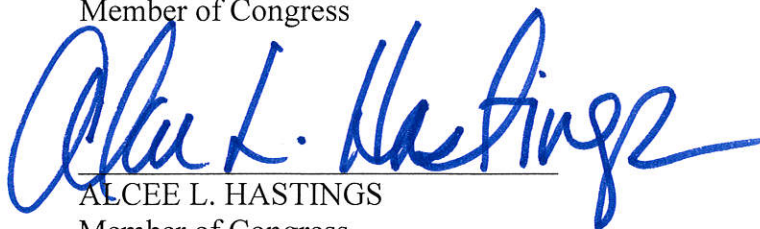
JAMES P. MORAN
Member of Congress



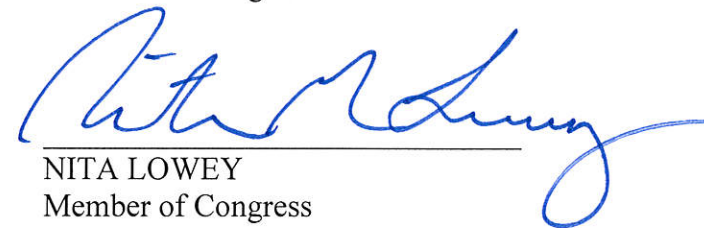
BARBARA LEE
Member of Congress



PETER WELCH
Member of Congress



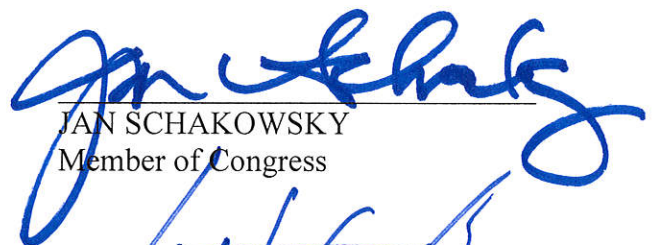
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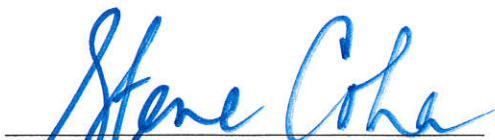
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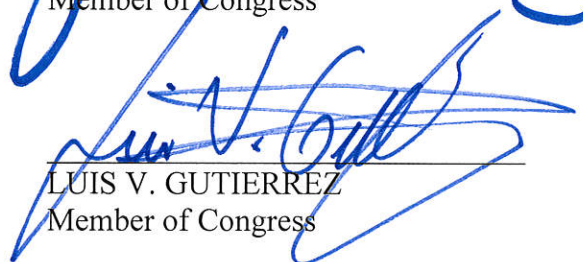
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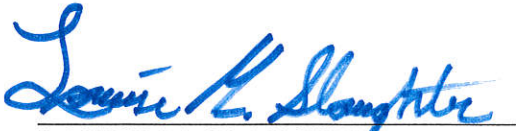
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