

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May, 17, 2014

Mr. David Smith, Superintendent
Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site
1515 Southeast Monroe Street
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Mr. Smith,

We, the undersigned Members of the United States House of Representatives, write you to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the United States Supreme Court decision in *Oliver L. Brown, et al. v. Board of Education of Topeka*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954).

The *Brown v. Board of Education* case included the additional cases of *Briggs v. Elliot* (South Carolina), *Davis v. Board of Education of Prince Edward County* (Virginia), *Boiling v. Sharpe* (Washington, DC), and *Gebhart v. Ethel* (Delaware), and the unanimous opinion written by Chief Justice Earl Warren, held that "Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal," and that segregation of schools violates the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment. This decision overturned *Plessy v. Ferguson*, 163 U.S. 537 (1896), and signaled the end of state-sanctioned segregation of public schools in the United States, making it unlawful to deny access to public facilities on the basis of race.

While much credit is given to Charles Hamilton Houston and Justice Thurgood Marshall for their hard work in making this decision a reality, we also wish to remember the sacrifices of the Reverend Oliver L. Brown, Reverend Joseph A. DeLaine, Harry and Eliza Briggs, the other parents of Summerton, South Carolina, Mrs. Dorothy E. Davis of Prince Edwards County, Virginia, Mr. Spottswood Bolling and the parents of Washington, DC, Ms. Ethel Belton, Ms. Sarah Bulah, and the other parents of Claymont, Delaware. These are leaders who not only saw the challenge, but committed themselves to the cause and have made our nation a better place.

We hope that your park will continue to provide the opportunity for future generations to visit and take part in the search for justice and equality for all Americans.

Sincerely,



Hon. Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



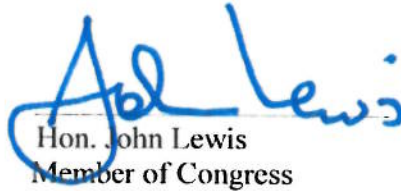
Hon. Lynn Jenkins, CPA
Member of Congress



Hon. Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



Hon. Eric Cantor
Member of Congress



Hon. John Lewis
Member of Congress



Hon. Kevin Yoder
Member of Congress



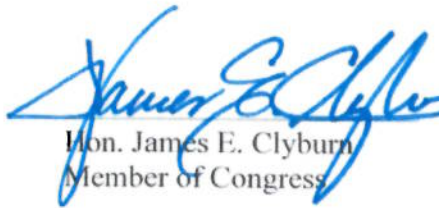
Hon. Mike Pompeo
Member of Congress



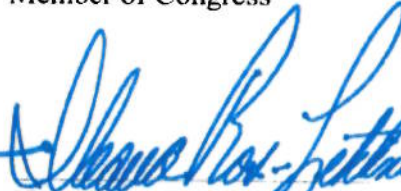
Hon. Tim Huelskamp
Member of Congress



Hon. Emanuel Cleaver
Member of Congress



Hon. James E. Clyburn
Member of Congress



Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress



Hon. John C. Carney Jr
Member of Congress



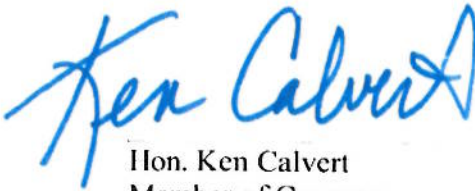
Hon. Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress



Hon. Ann Wagner
Member of Congress



Hon. Corrine Brown
Member of Congress



Hon. Ken Calvert
Member of Congress



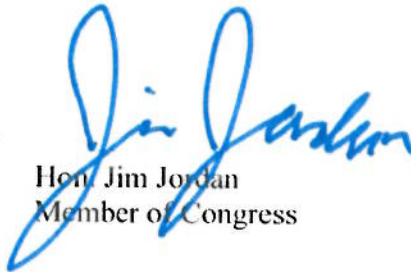
Hon. Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress



Hon. Chris Collins
Member of Congress



Hon. Rubén Hinojosa
Member of Congress



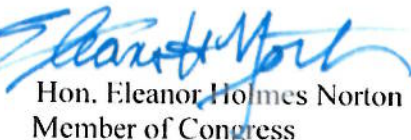
Hon. Jim Jordan
Member of Congress



Hon. Filemon Vela
Member of Congress



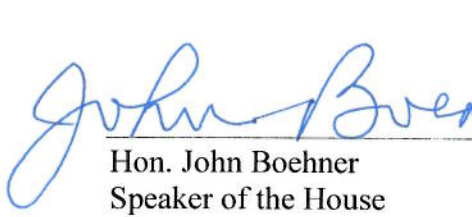
Hon. Shelley Moore Capito
Member of Congress

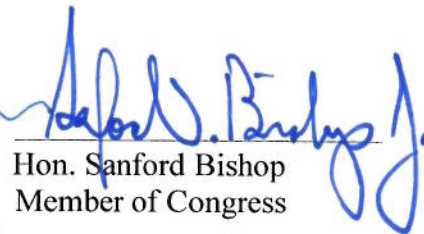


Hon. Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

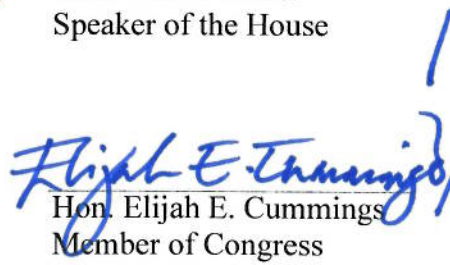


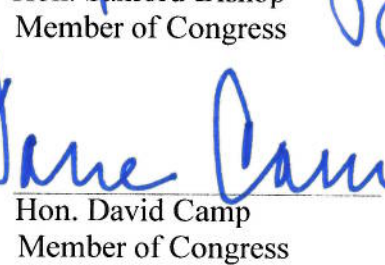
Hon. Billy Long
Member of Congress


Hon. John Boehner
Speaker of the House

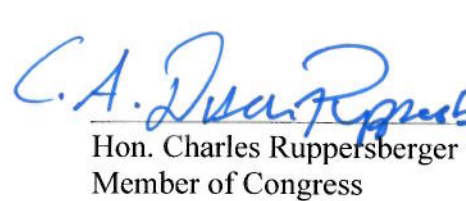

Hon. Sanford Bishop
Member of Congress

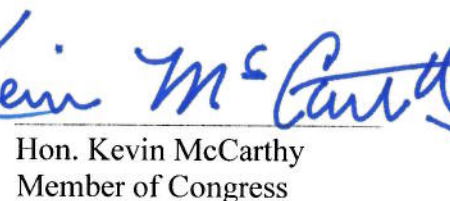

Hon. Paul Ryan
Member of Congress

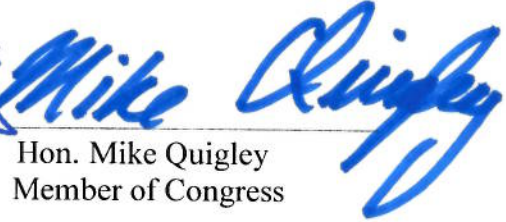

Hon. Elijah E. Cummings
Member of Congress


Hon. David Camp
Member of Congress

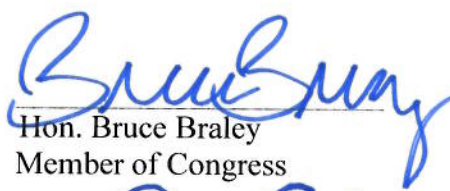

Hon. Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

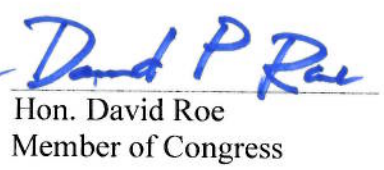

Hon. Charles Ruppertsberger
Member of Congress

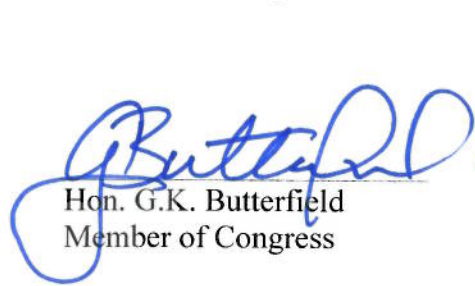

Hon. Kevin McCarthy
Member of Congress

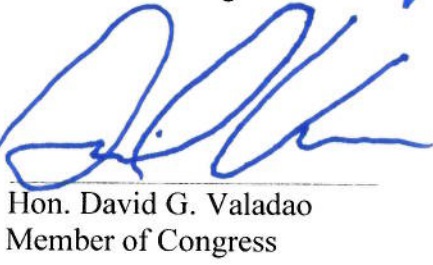

Hon. Mike Quigley
Member of Congress


Hon. Peter Roskam
Member of Congress

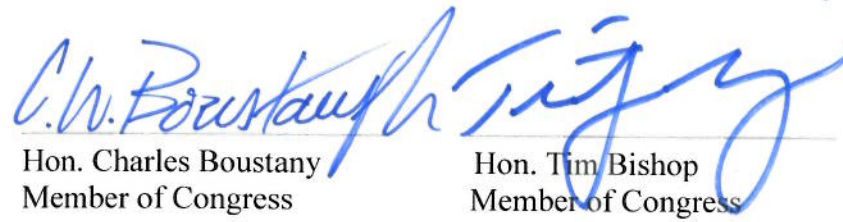

Hon. Bruce Braley
Member of Congress

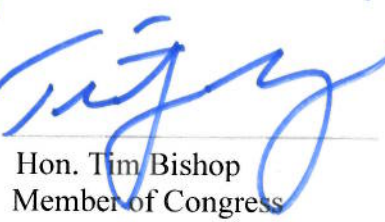

Hon. David Roe
Member of Congress

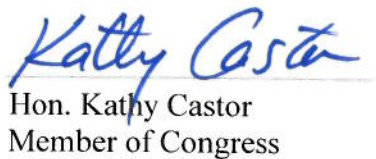

Hon. G.K. Butterfield
Member of Congress

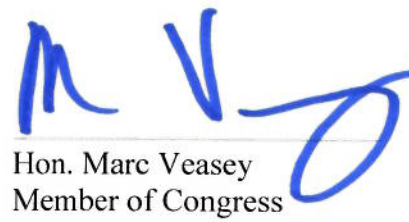

Hon. David G. Valadao
Member of Congress


Hon. Samuel Farr
Member of Congress


Hon. Charles Boustany
Member of Congress


Hon. Tim Bishop
Member of Congress


Hon. Kathy Castor
Member of Congress

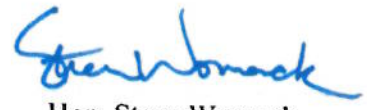

Hon. Marc Veasey
Member of Congress


Hon. Charles Fleischmann
Member of Congress


Hon. Carol Shea-Porter
Member of Congress


Hon. Tim Griffin
Member of Congress



Hon. Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress


Hon. Steve Womack
Member of Congress


Hon. Danny Davis
Member of Congress


Hon. Scott Tipton
Member of Congress


Hon. Terri Sewell
Member of Congress


Hon. Rick Crawford
Member of Congress



Hon. Mike Honda
Member of Congress



Hon. Linda Sánchez
Member of Congress


Hon. Jason Chaffetz
Member of Congress


Hon. Alan Grayson
Member of Congress


Hon. Rodney Davis
Member of Congress

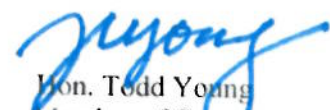

Hon. Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



Hon. Kerry Bentivolio
Member of Congress


Hon. Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



Hon. Robert Hurt
Member of Congress


Hon. Julia Brownley
Member of Congress


Hon. Todd Young
Member of Congress

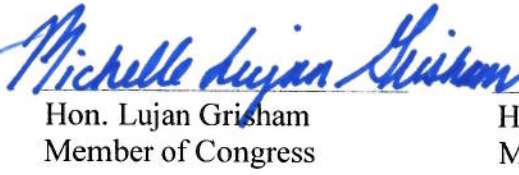

Hon. José E. Serrano
Member of Congress


Hon. Blaine Luetkemeyer
Member of Congress

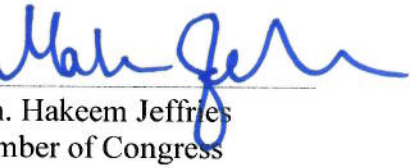

Hon. Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Hon. Nita Lowey
Member of Congress



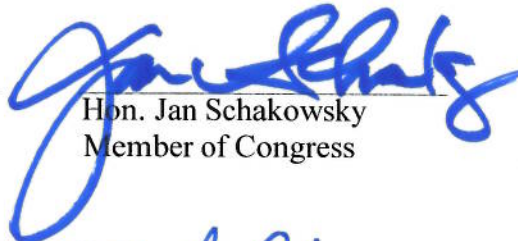
Hon. Lujan Grisham
Member of Congress



Hon. Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress



Hon. Pete Sessions
Member of Congress



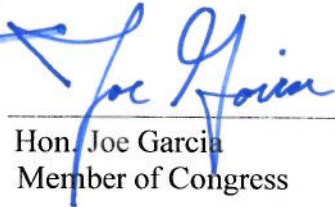
Hon. Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress




Hon. John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Hon. Maxine Waters
Member of Congress




Hon. Joe Garcia
Member of Congress



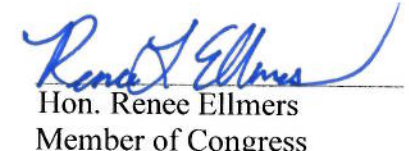
Hon. Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Hon. Mike Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Hon. William Cassidy
Member of Congress



Hon. Renee Ellmers
Member of Congress



Hon. Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



Hon. Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress



Hon. Dan Benishek, M.D.
Member of Congress



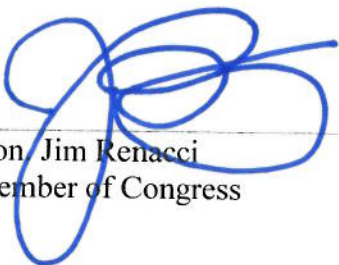
Hon. Scott Rigell
Member of Congress



Hon. Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Hon. Deyin Nunes
Member of Congress



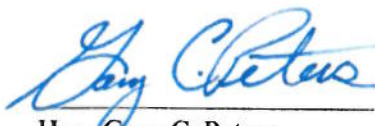
Hon. Jim Renacci
Member of Congress



Hon. Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



Hon. Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



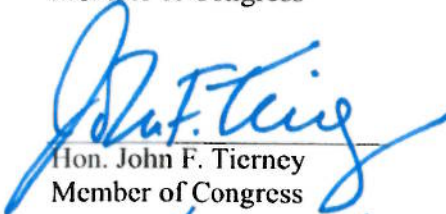
Hon. Gary C. Peters
Member of Congress



Hon. Ben Ray Lujan
Member of Congress



Hon. John Yarmuth
Member of Congress



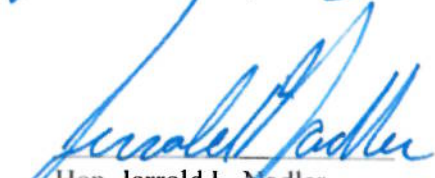
Hon. John F. Tierney
Member of Congress



Hon. Rush Holt
Member of Congress



Hon. John Dingell
Member of Congress



Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler
Member of Congress



Hon. Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Hon. Ann Kirkpatrick
Member of Congress



Hon. Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



Hon. David Cicilline
Member of Congress



Hon. Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



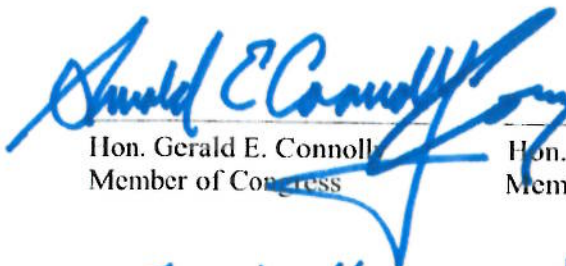
Hon. Jim Costa
Member of Congress



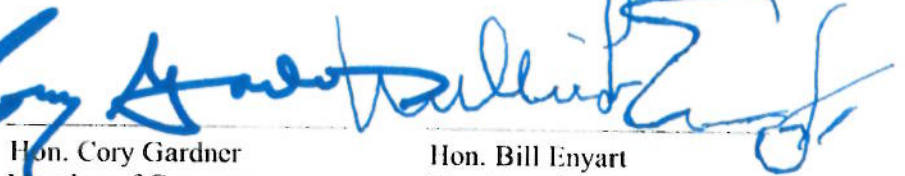
Hon. Joseph R. Pitts
Member of Congress



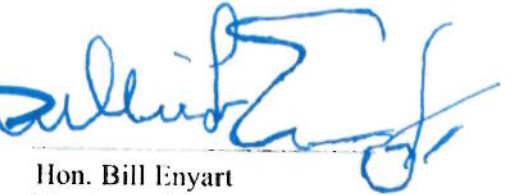
Hon. Rosa DeLauro
Member of Congress



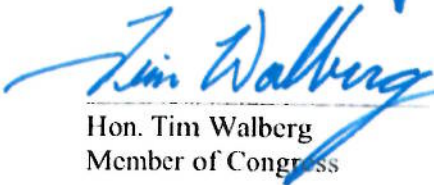
Hon. Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



Hon. Cory Gardner
Member of Congress



Hon. Bill Enyart
Member of Congress



Hon. Tim Walberg
Member of Congress




Hon. Luis V. Gutierrez
Member of Congress

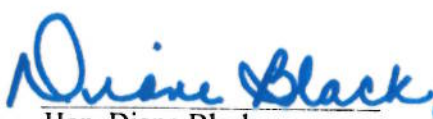



Hon. Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress

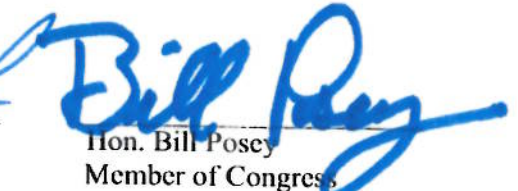

Hon. Jared Huffman
Member of Congress


Hon. Sam Graves
Member of Congress

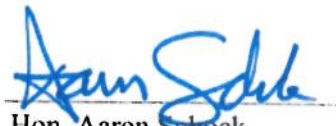

Hon. Keith Ellison
Member of Congress

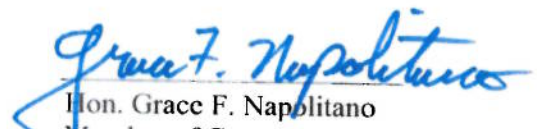

Hon. Diane Black
Member of Congress



Hon. Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress


Hon. Bill Posey
Member of Congress


Hon. Adam Schiff
Member of Congress

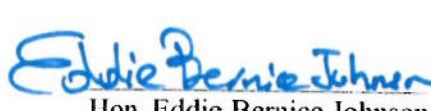

Hon. Aaron Schock
Member of Congress



Hon. Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress



Hon. Leonard Lance
Member of Congress



Hon. Carolyn McCarthy
Member of Congress


Hon. Lou Barletta
Member of Congress


Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress



Hon. Frank A. LoBiondo
Member of Congress


Hon. Robert A. Brady
Member of Congress



Hon. Spencer Bachus
Member of Congress


Hon. Nick Rahall
Member of Congress


Hon. Steve Southerland
Member of Congress


Hon. Juan Vargas
Member of Congress


Hon. Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress


Hon. Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress




Hon. Jeff Miller
Member of Congress



Hon. Steve Cohen
Member of Congress

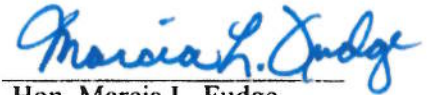
Hon. Jackie Walorski
Member of Congress



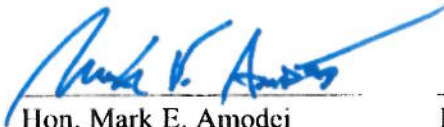
Hon. Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



Hon. Robert Pittenger
Member of Congress



Hon. Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress



Hon. Mark E. Amodei
Member of Congress



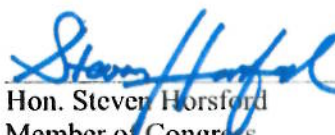
Hon. Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Hon. John Campbell
Member of Congress



Hon. David Price
Member of Congress



Hon. Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



Hon. Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress



Hon. Paul Cook
Member of Congress



Hon. Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



Hon. Michael Turner
Member of Congress



Hon. Robert C. Scott
Member of Congress



Hon. Scott Garrett
Member of Congress



Hon. James Moran
Member of Congress



Hon. Lee Terry
Member of Congress



Hon. Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



Hon. Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress

Hon. David Scott
Member of Congress

Hon. John Carter
Member of Congress

Hon. William Lacy Clay
Member of Congress

Hon. Reid Ribble
Member of Congress

Hon. Janice Hahn
Member of Congress

Hon. Fred Upton
Member of Congress

Hon. Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

Hon. Steve Chabot
Member of Congress

Hon. Ted Deutch
Member of Congress

Hon. Charles W. Dent
Member of Congress

Hon. Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress

Hon. Tom Cotton
Member of Congress

Hon. Jim McDermott
Member of Congress

Hon. Daniel Webster
Member of Congress

Hon. Jim Cooper
Member of Congress

Hon. Kevin Cramer
Member of Congress

Hon. James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Hon. Steve Stivers
Member of Congress

Hon. André Carson
Member of Congress

Hon. Bill Johnson
Member of Congress

Hon. John Conyers
Member of Congress

Kristi Noem *Gloria Negrete McLeod*

Hon. Kristi Noem
Member of Congress

Hon. Gloria Negrete McLeod
Member of Congress