

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May, 28 2013

President Barack Obama

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing to request that you take direct action and involvement in ending the current Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) disability claims backlog.

After a decade of war, and despite the VA's efforts to modernize, more than 600,000 veterans are still stuck in the VA's disability claims backlog. While the average wait time for first time disability claims currently ranges between 316 and 327 days, veterans in certain parts of the country are waiting even longer – 625 in Pittsburgh, 510 in Philadelphia, 681 in Reno and Las Vegas, 619 days in Los Angeles, 612 in Indianapolis, 586 in Houston and 642 in New York. In the worst cases, veterans have waited and continue to wait 800 days, 900 days, and even more than 1000 days for a disability claims decision from the VA.

In the last four years, claims pending over a year have grown by 2000%, despite a 40% increase in the VA's budget. Solving this problem is critical for veterans of all generations. We need direct and public involvement from you to establish a clear plan to end the backlog once and for all.

This country must be grateful for the safe homecoming of every single man and woman who has served in harm's way. Our joy at their return must be reflected in our commitment to helping all who have served. We respectfully ask you and your administration to find a solution that ensures that no veterans are stuck in the VA backlog.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

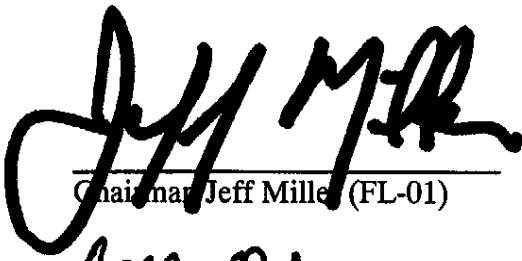
Sincerely,



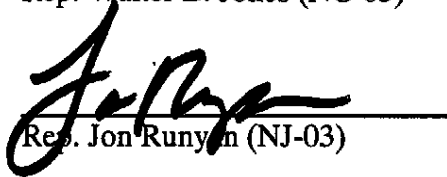
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Rep. Scott R. Tipton (CO-03)


Rep. Stevan Pearce (NM-02)

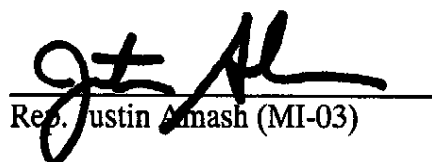

Rep. Denny Heck (WA-10)


Rep. Cory Gardner (CO-04)


Rep. Tulsi Gabbard (HI-02)

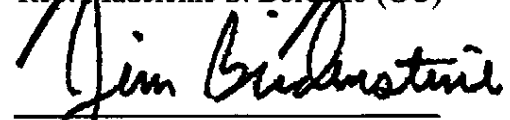

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Chairman Buck McKeon (CA-25)


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Rep. Cynthia Lummis (WY-At Large)

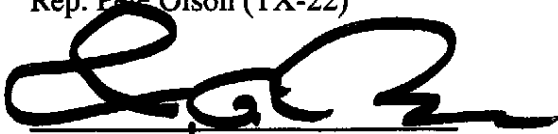

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Rep. Brad R. Wenstrup (OH-02)


Rep. Joe Wilson (SC-02)

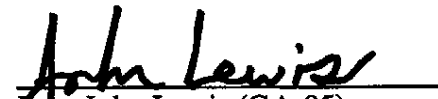

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Rep. Cedric L. Richmond (LA-02)

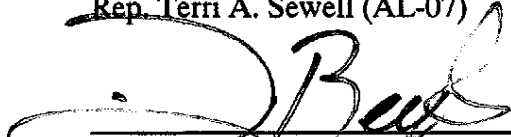

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Rep. William L. Owens (NY-21)


Rep. Terri A. Sewell (AL-07)

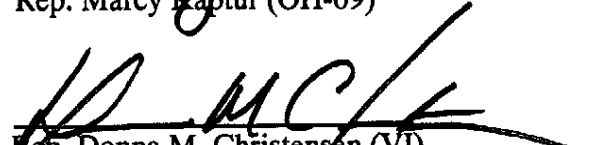

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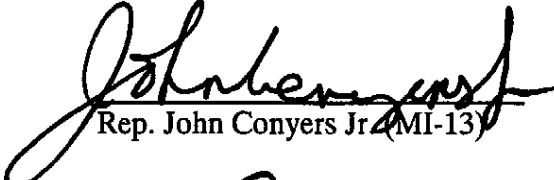

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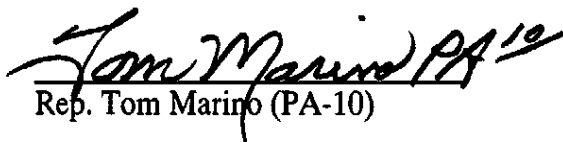

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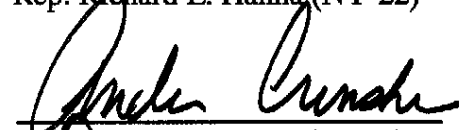

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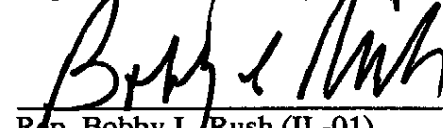

Rep. David Loebsack (IA-02)

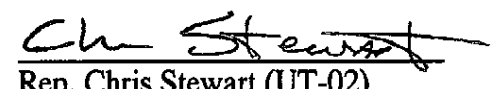

Rep. James B. Renacci (OH-16)



Rep. Tom Rice (SC-07)

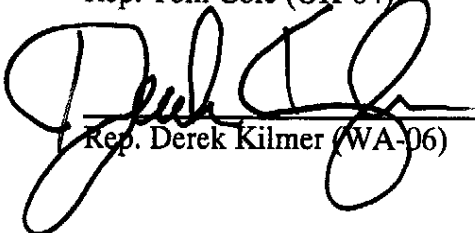

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Rep. Bobby L. Rush (IL-01)


Rep. Chris Stewart (UT-02)


Rep. Tom Cole (OK-04)


Rep. Derek Kilmer (WA-06)


Rep. Robert E. Latta (OH-05)

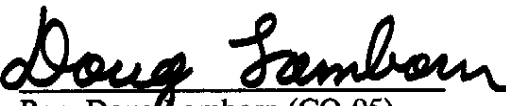

Rep. Robert A. Brady (PA-01)


Rep. Tim Griffin (AR-02)

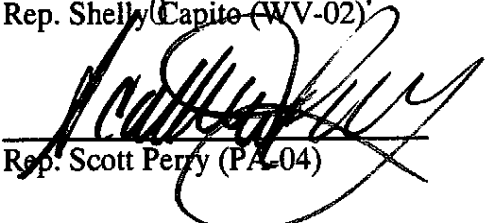

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Rep. Kerry Bentivolio (MI-11)


Rep. Doug Lamborn (CO-05)


Rep. Shelly Capito (WV-02)

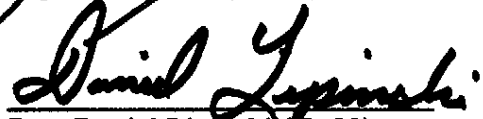

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Rep. Bill Huzeza (MI-04)


Rep. Albio Sires (NJ-08)


Rep. Daniel Lipinski (IL-03)


Rep. Joe Lofgren (CA-19)


Rep. Dan Benishek (MI-01)

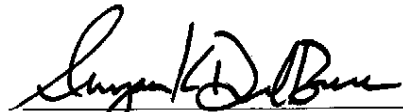

Rep. Todd Rokita (IN-04)



Rep. Joe Courtney (CT-02)


Rep. Howard Coble (NC-06)


Rep. Mike Fitzpatrick (PA-08)

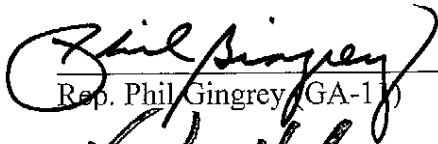

Rep. Rodney Davis (IL-13)

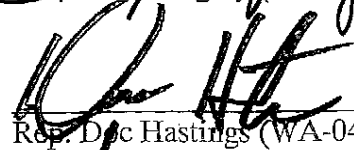

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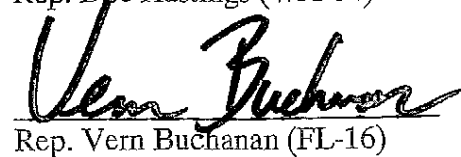

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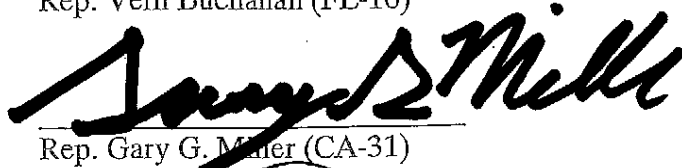

Rep. Jaime Herrera Beutler (WA-03)

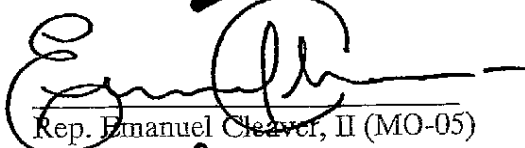

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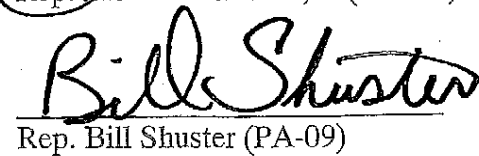

Rep. Phil Gingrey (GA-1)

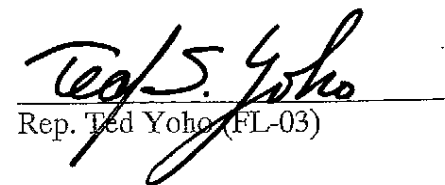

Rep. Doc Hastings (WA-04)



Rep. Vern Buchanan (FL-16)

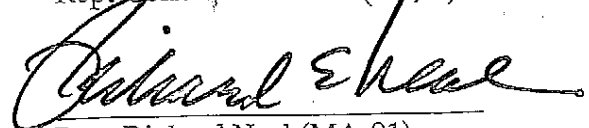

Rep. Gary G. Miller (CA-31)


Rep. Emanuel Cleaver, II (MO-05)

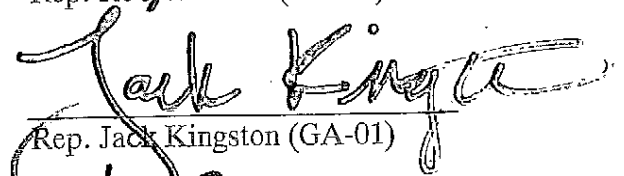

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Rep. Ted Yoho (FL-03)


Rep. Colleen Hanabusa (HI-01)

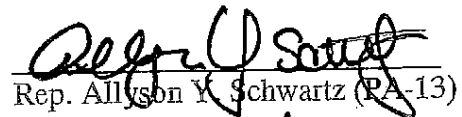

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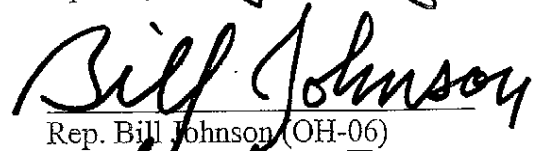

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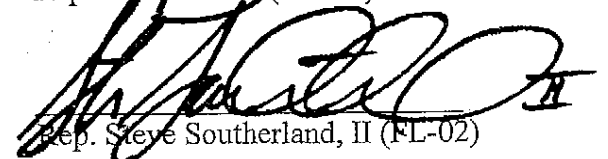

Rep. Jack Kingston (GA-01)


Rep. John Shimkus (IL-15)

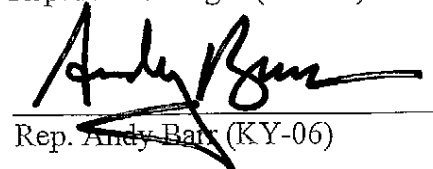

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Rep. Bill Johnson (OH-06)


Rep. Steve Southerland, II (FL-02)


Rep. Niki Tsongas (MA-03)


Rep. Andy Barr (KY-06)



Rep. Ron Barber (AZ-02)



Rep. Lois Capps (CA-24)



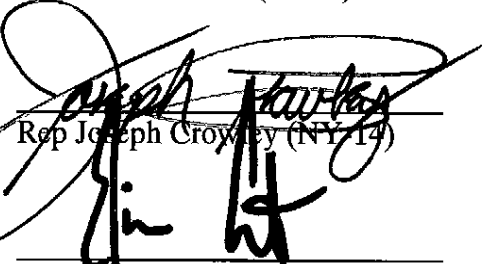
Rep. Rush Holt (NJ-12)



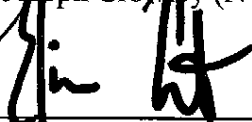
Rep. David P. Joyce (OH-14)



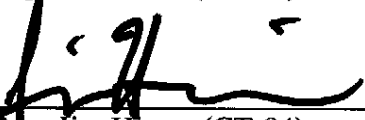
Rep. Luke Messer (IN-06)



Rep. Joseph Crowley (NY-14)



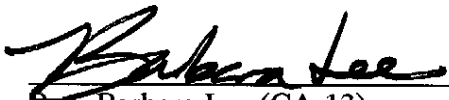
Rep. Jim Costa (CA-16)



Rep. Jim Himes (CT-04)



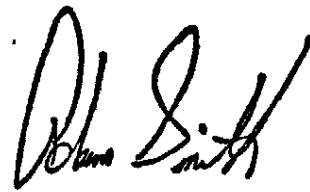
Rep. Beto O'Rourke (TX-16)



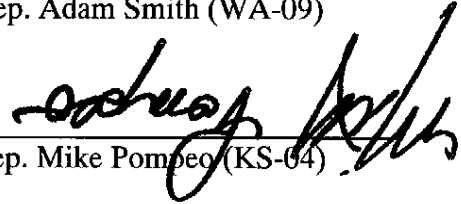
Rep. Barbara Lee (CA-13)



Rep. Charles J. Fleischmann (TN-03)



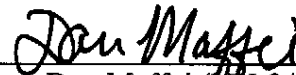
Rep. Adam Smith (WA-09)



Rep. Mike Pompeo (KS-04)



Rep. John K. Delaney (MD-06)



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Rep. Bruce Braley (IA-01)



Rep. Donald M. Payne (NJ-10)



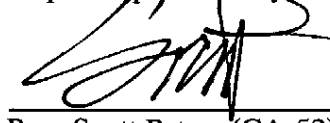
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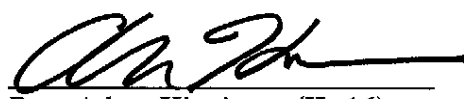
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Rep. Mo Brooks (AL-05)

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Rep. Vicky Hartzler (MO-04)

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Rep. Scott E. Rigell (VA-02)

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Rep. Ted Deutch (FL-21)

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Rep. Nim Gerlach (PA-06)

Mark Takano

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Virginia Foxx

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Rep. Jackie Walorski (IN-02)

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Rep. Mike McIntyre (NC-07)

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Rep. Mark E. Amodei (NV-02)

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Rep. Timothy H. Bishop (NY-01)

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Rep. Ann M. Kuster (NH-02)

Gus M. Bilirakis

Rep. Gus M. Bilirakis (FL-12)

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Rep. Todd Young (IN-09)

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