

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 10, 2016

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Lowey:

As the House works to craft appropriations legislation before the current continuing resolution expires on December 9, 2016, we write to express our strong support for increasing funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In any forthcoming appropriations legislation for FY 2017, we urge you to work with your Senate colleagues to ensure NIH receives a funding level of no less than \$34 billion, equal to the level approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee, in order to maintain America's role as a global leader in biomedical research and groundbreaking medical discoveries.

On a bipartisan basis, members of the 114th Congress have repeatedly demonstrated our clear and unambiguous support for strengthening investments in NIH. We know this funding helps us push the boundaries of scientific knowledge, advance promising research and offer hope to millions of Americans suffering from heartbreaking diseases. Federal funding for this life-saving research is also a key economic driver for our nation, supporting more than 400,000 jobs and generating over \$60 billion in new economic activity. It delivers a significant return on our investment today and for generations to come.

While the increase included in last year's omnibus appropriations bill was an important step, we remain concerned that federal investments in biomedical research have failed to keep pace with inflation over the last 13 years. By failing to hold NIH funding constant with other rising costs, Congress has allowed the agency's purchasing power to diminish by nearly 20 percent since 2003. As other countries' investments in research continue to grow at a far faster pace than those made by the U.S., it is more critical than ever that we act to reverse this trend.

Insufficient funding for NIH has a serious, wide-ranging impact on our nation's health and our capacity for medical innovation in the 21st century. If we are serious about breaking new ground in our understanding of complex and life-threatening conditions, then it is absolutely essential we increase funding for NIH. Simply put, we cannot hope to accelerate the development of new cures, therapies and vaccines without additional resources for research. Particularly given the significant investments in NIH approved earlier this year by the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, we feel strongly that now is the time to recommit to America's long-term health and prosperity.

While we understand the difficult fiscal challenges you face, we urge you to prioritize the important role NIH plays in medical innovation and economic growth by funding the agency at an annual level of no less than \$34 billion. Thank you for your consideration of this request, which will make a meaningful difference in the lives of millions of Americans.

Sincerely,



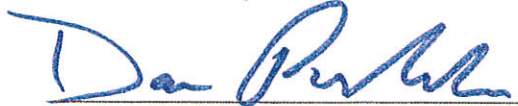
Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



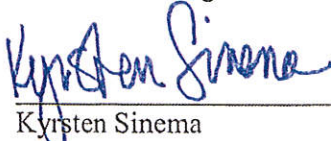
Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Patrick Meehan
Member of Congress



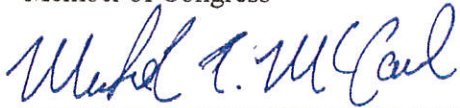
Dana Rohrabacher
Member of Congress



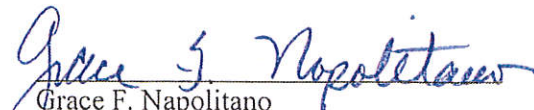
Kyrsten Sinema
Member of Congress



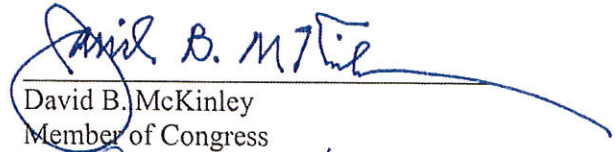
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



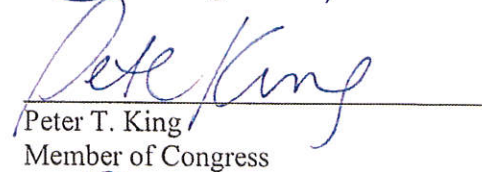
Michael T. McCaul
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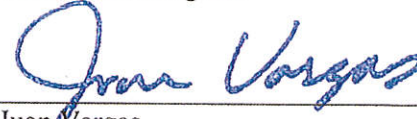
Grace F. Napolitano
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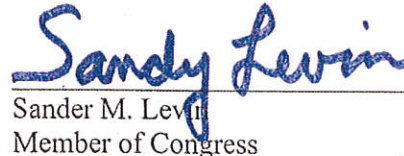
David B. McKinley
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Peter T. King
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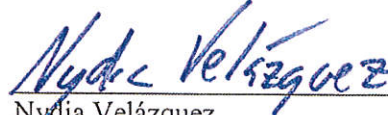
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



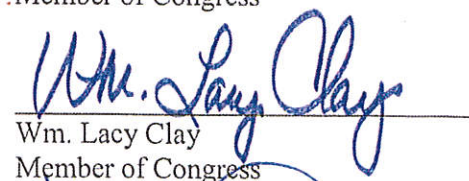
Sander M. Levin
Member of Congress



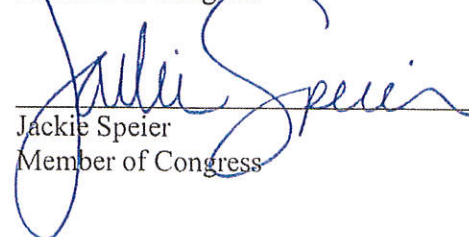
Donald Norcross
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Nydia Velázquez
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Wm. Lacy Clay
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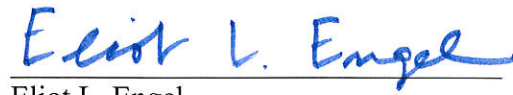
Jackie Speier
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Andy Barr
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André Carson
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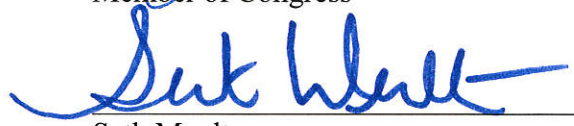

Brad Ashford
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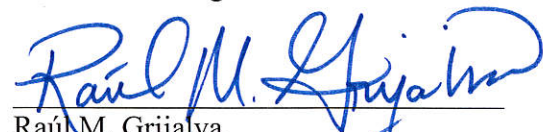

Ben Ray Luján
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Ann McLane Kuster
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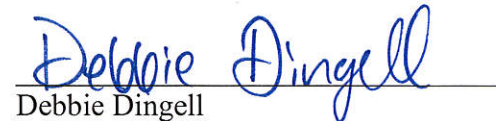

Denny Heck
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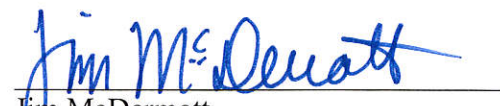

Seth Moulton
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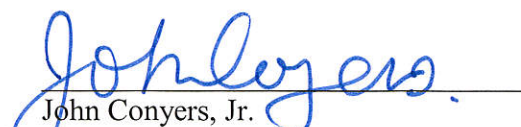

Raúl M. Grijalva
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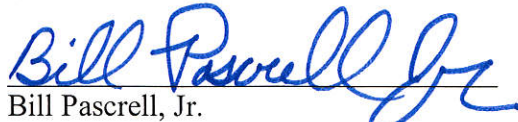

Debbie Dingell
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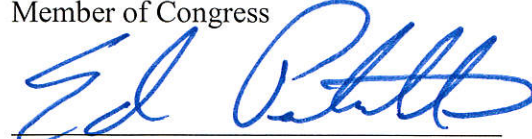

Jim McDermott
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John Conyers, Jr.
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Eddie Bernice Johnson
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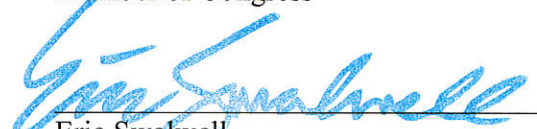

Bill Pascrell, Jr.
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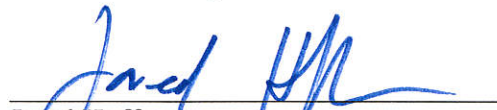

Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress

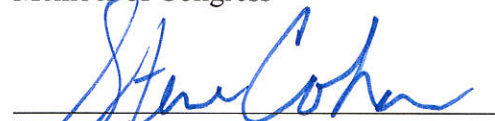

Eleanor Holmes Norton
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Rick Larsen
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Eric Swalwell
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Jared Huffman
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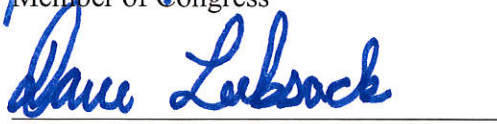

Steve Cohen
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Jared Polis

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David N. Cicilline

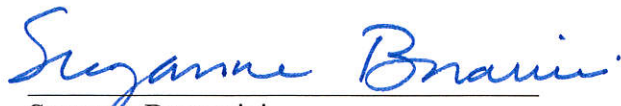
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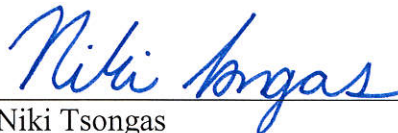
Jim Cooper
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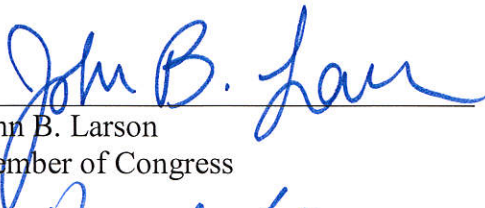
Kurt Schrader
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Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



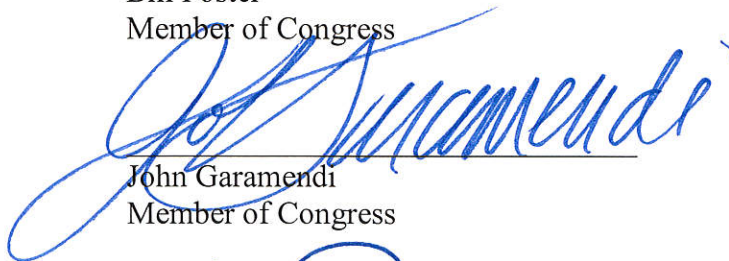
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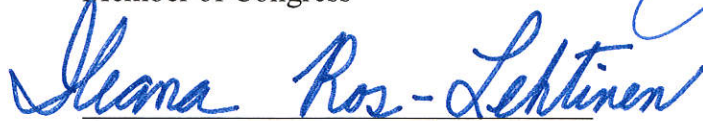
Bill Foster
Member of Congress



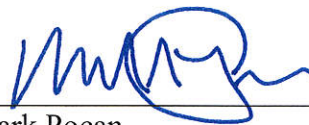
Peter A. DeFazio
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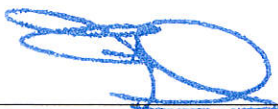
John Garamendi
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Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



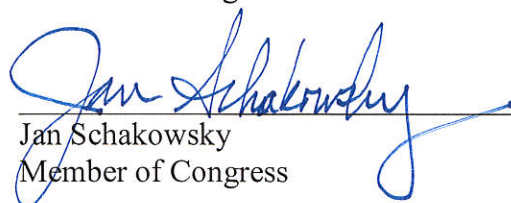
Sean Patrick Maloney
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Al Green
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Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



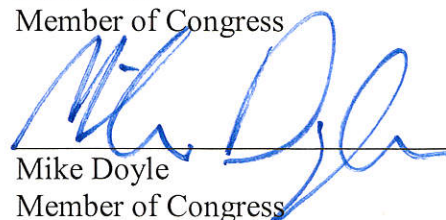
Lois Frankel
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Karen Bass
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress



Mike Doyle
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



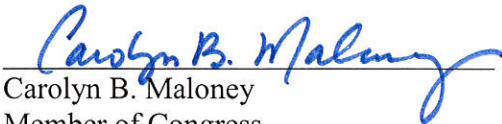
Grace Meng
Member of Congress



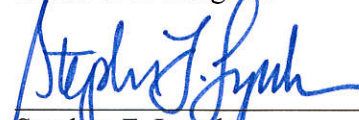
Hakeem S. Jeffries
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



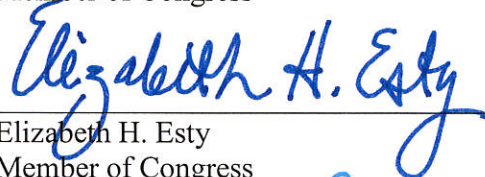
Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



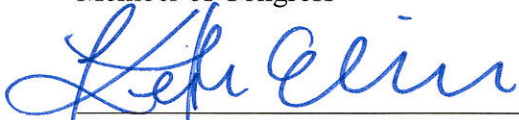
Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress



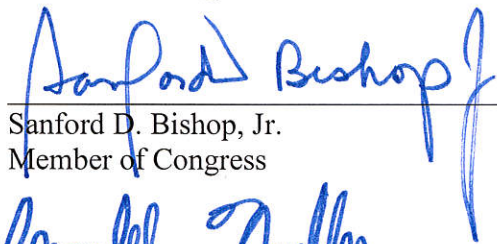
Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



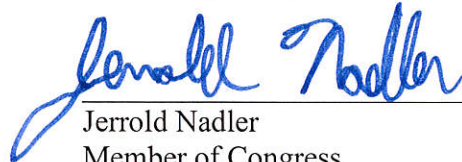
Keith Ellison
Member of Congress



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
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Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



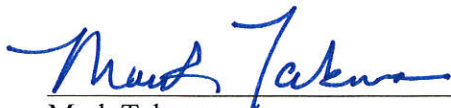
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



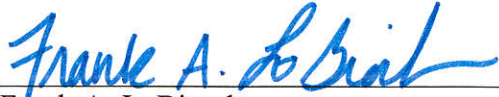
Brenda L. Lawrence
Member of Congress



Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Frank A. LoBiondo
Member of Congress



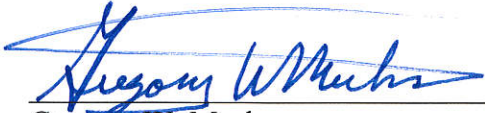
Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



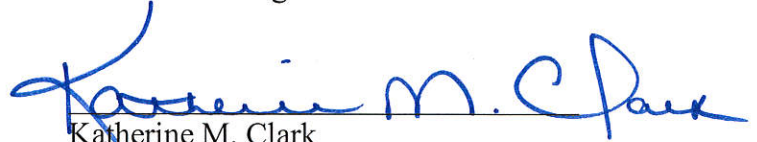
David Scott
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



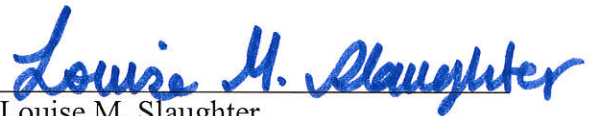
Gregory W. Meeks
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Katherine M. Clark
Member of Congress



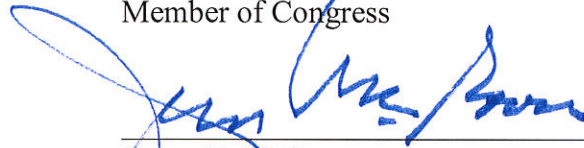
Judy Chu
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Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress



Sam Graves
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James P. McGovern
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Richard M. Nolan
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Sheila Jackson Lee
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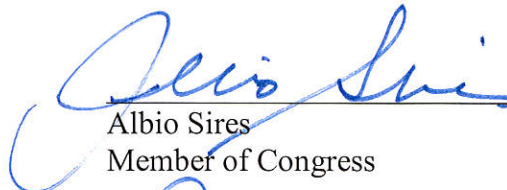
Doris Matsui
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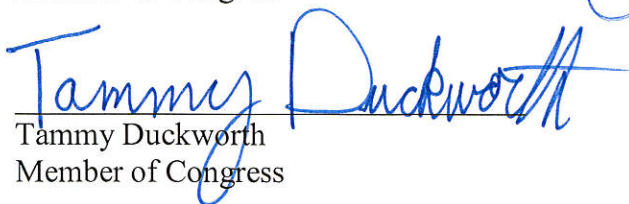
Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress



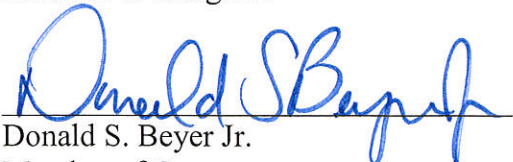
Christopher H. Smith
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Albio Sires
Member of Congress



Tammy Duckworth
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Chris Collins

Chris Collins
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Don Young

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Cheri Bustos
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Joe Courtney

Joe Courtney
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Brendan F. Boyle

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Joaquin Castro

Joaquin Castro
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G. K. Butterfield

G. K. Butterfield
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Kathleen M. Rice

Kathleen M. Rice
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Charles B. Rangel

Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress

Frederica S. Wilson

Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress

Chellie Pingree

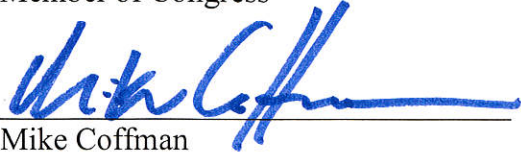
Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

Emanuel Cleaver, II

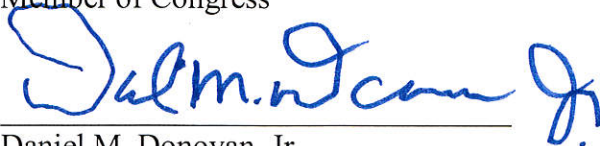
Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Glenn 'GT' Thompson
Member of Congress



Mike Coffman
Member of Congress



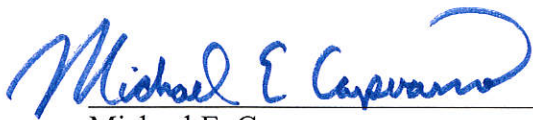
Daniel M. Donovan, Jr.
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Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress



Michael G. Fitzpatrick
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Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress




Matt Salmon
Member of Congress



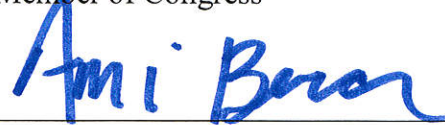
Linda T. Sánchez
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Chris Gibson
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
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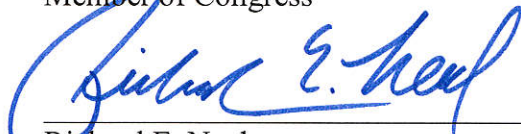
Beto O'Rourke
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Alma Adams
Member of Congress



Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress




Richard E. Neal
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Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



Theodore E. Deutch
Member of Congress



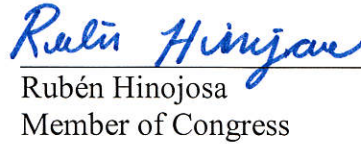
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Raul Ruiz, M.D.
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Patrick E. Murphy
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Rubén Hinojosa
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