

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 15, 2016

The Honorable Mike Simpson  
Chairman  
Energy and Water Development  
Appropriations Subcommittee  
House Appropriations Committee  
2362-B Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur  
Ranking Member  
Energy and Water Development  
Appropriations Subcommittee  
House Appropriations Committee  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Kaptur:

We are writing to express our strong support of President Obama's fiscal year (FY) 2017 budget request of \$330 million for the National Ignition Facility (NIF), located at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, under the National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) Inertial Confinement Fusion and High Yield Campaign (ICF).

Failing to provide this stable and sufficient funding would have a negative impact on domestic fusion research at a critical juncture when major scientific breakthroughs are being achieved. Russia, China, and France have accelerated investments in this area to compete in inertial confinement fusion, but remain behind this premier U.S. facility. We must not cede American leadership, as this investment leads to the energy industry of the future.

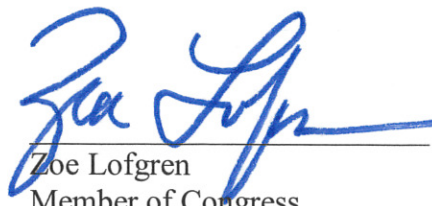
To ensure the U.S. does not fall behind our competitors and continues to build upon the significant investments already made, it is essential that the NIF be given the sustained funding consistent with the President's budget request. We look forward to working with you to maintain and build on our country's leadership in inertial confinement fusion research and development, necessary to maintain our nuclear stockpile and develop the energy of the future.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

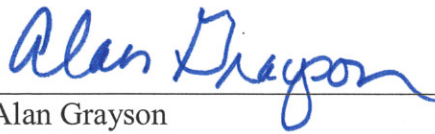
Sincerely,



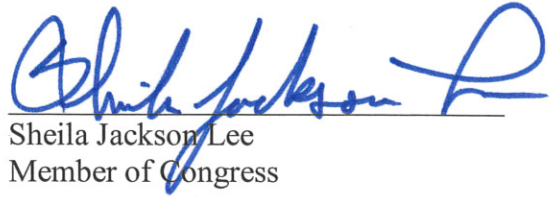
Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



Alan Grayson  
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress



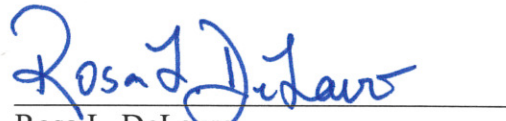
Matt Cartwright  
Member of Congress



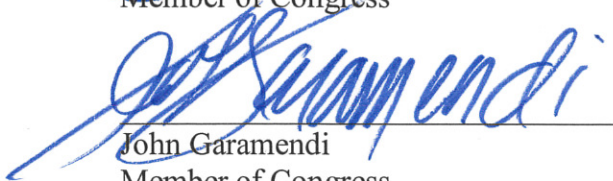
Keith Ellison  
Member of Congress



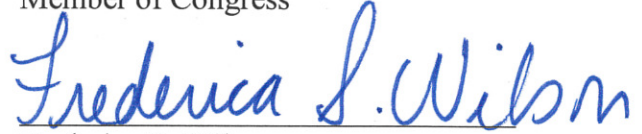
Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress



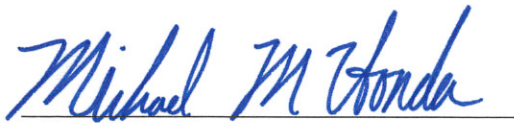
Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress



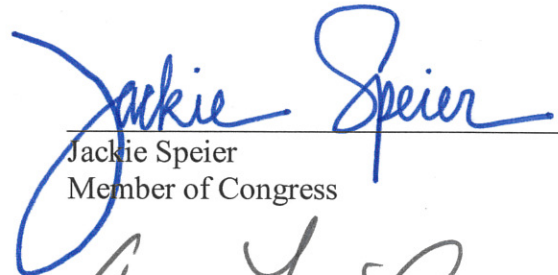
John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



Michael M. Honda  
Member of Congress



Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress



Scott Peters  
Member of Congress



Chaka Fattah  
Member of Congress



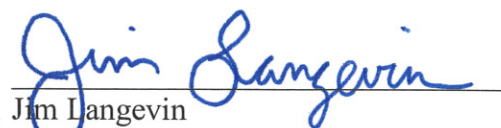
John Conyers Jr.  
Member of Congress



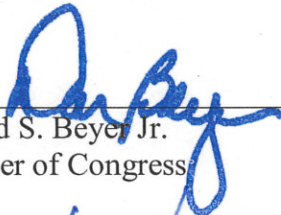
Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



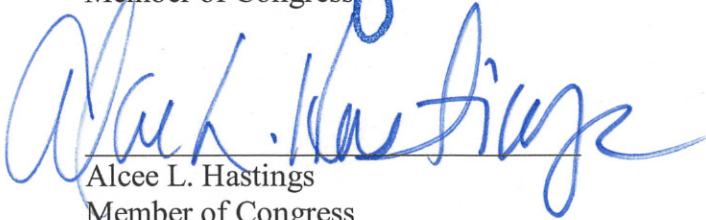
Jim Langevin  
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



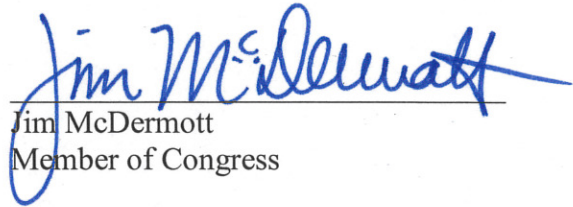
Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress



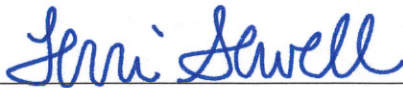
Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Corrine Brown  
Member of Congress



Jim McDermott  
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



Donna F. Edwards  
Member of Congress