

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 24, 2016

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Labor,  
Health and Human Services, Education  
and Related Agencies  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor,  
Health and Human Services, Education  
and Related Agencies  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

We want to thank the Subcommittee for your continued support and recognition of Health Centers as a longstanding bipartisan solution to the primary care access problems facing this country. **During the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 Appropriations process, we respectfully request that the Subcommittee continue to recognize Health Centers as providers of high quality, cost-effective primary care and that you work to ensure the continuation of the innovative, high-value health center model of care within the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies legislation for FY2017.**

Since the first health centers opened their doors more than fifty years ago, health centers have provided primary care, dental, behavioral, pharmacy, vision and a variety of complementary services to America's most vulnerable patients and communities. Today, thanks to longstanding bipartisan support, well over 1,300 health center organizations serve more than 9,000 urban and rural communities nationwide. Health centers are the health care home for more than 24 million patients, including more than 7 million children and nearly 300,000 veterans. Health centers employ more than 175,000 Americans, and generate billions of dollars both in economic impact and overall cost-savings the health care system.

Health centers have continually proven to be a worthwhile investment by delivering high quality, affordable health care, and the demand for health center services has grown in recent years. Combined with the investments made on a bipartisan basis through the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization of 2015 (MACRA), the annual appropriation is critical to the operations of health centers nationwide as they meet that demand. Without access to primary care, many people, including the chronically ill, delay seeking health care until they are seriously ill, leading to higher costs and worse health outcomes. The health center model is designed to address this and other health challenges by fostering innovation and high-value care at the community level.

As Congress works to improve access to care, reduce health care expenditures, and promote patient-centered solutions to our health care challenges, we urge the Subcommittee to continue to support Health Centers, which have a proven track record of success. Thank you for your continued support of the vital role Health Centers play in preserving and expanding access

to care in the communities they serve. We ask that as you continue to face difficult choices on budget priorities, that you support this proven and cost-effective model of care.

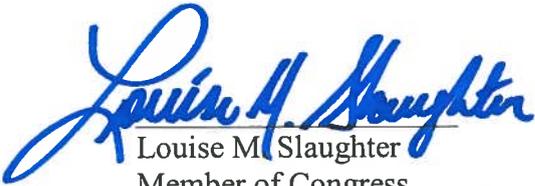
Sincerely,



Gene Green  
Member of Congress



Gus M. Bilirakis  
Member of Congress



Louise M. Slaughter  
Member of Congress



Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress



Darin LaHood  
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



Eliot L. Engel  
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



Randy Hultgren  
Member of Congress



Lois Capps  
Member of Congress



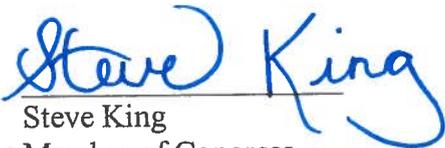
Elijah E. Cummings  
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson  
Member of Congress



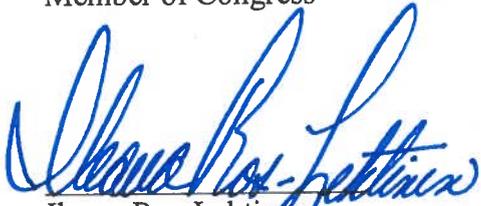
Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



Steve King  
Member of Congress



Henry Cuellar  
Member of Congress



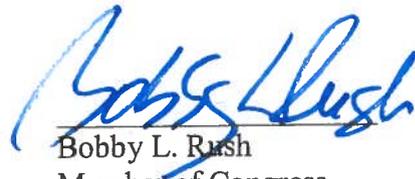
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen  
Member of Congress



Collin C. Peterson  
Member of Congress



Lynn Westmoreland  
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress



Ed Whitfield  
Member of Congress



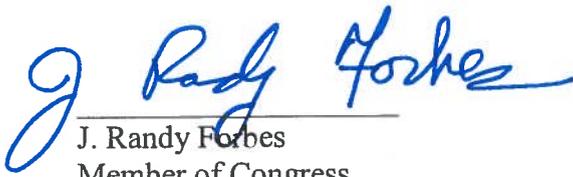
Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



J. Randy Forbes  
Member of Congress



Peter A. DeFazio  
Member of Congress



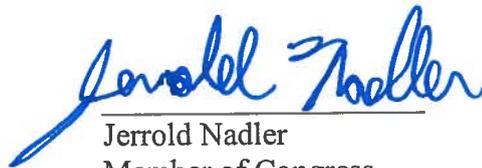
Pete Olson  
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



Corinne Brown  
Member of Congress



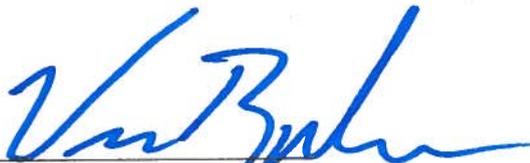
Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



David E. Price  
Member of Congress



Joe Barton  
Member of Congress



Vern Buchanan  
Member of Congress



Rodney Davis  
Member of Congress



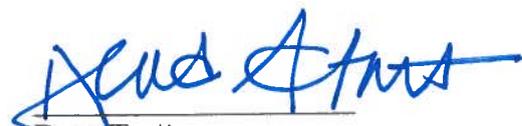
Jeff Denham  
Member of Congress



Daniel M. Donovan, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Rob Woodall  
Member of Congress



Dave Trott  
Member of Congress



Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress



Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison  
Member of Congress



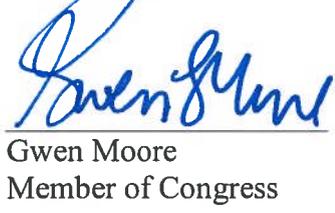
Rubén Hinojosa  
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress



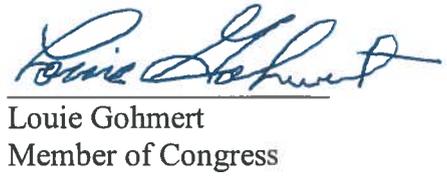
Peter J. Roskam  
Member of Congress



Gwen Moore  
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



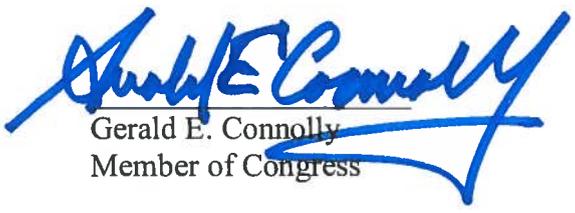
Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



Adrian Smith  
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson  
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



André Carson  
Member of Congress



Ted Deutch  
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Lujan  
Member of Congress



Donna F. Edwards  
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



Mike Coffman  
Member of Congress



Madeleine Z. Bordallo  
Member of Congress



John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



Cynthia M. Lummis  
Member of Congress



Steve Pearce  
Member of Congress



Kurt Schrader  
Member of Congress



Duncan Hunter  
Member of Congress



Wm. Lacy Clay  
Member of Congress



John Conyers, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Austin Scott  
Member of Congress



C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger  
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



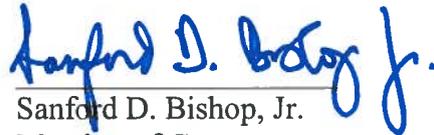
Pedro R. Pierluisi  
Member of Congress



Lamar Smith  
Member of Congress



Luis V. Gutiérrez  
Member of Congress



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



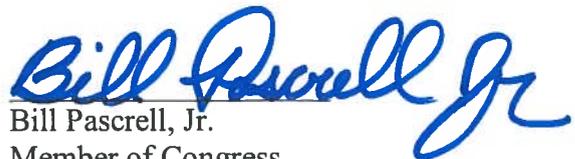
Mike Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



Christopher H. Smith  
Member of Congress



Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



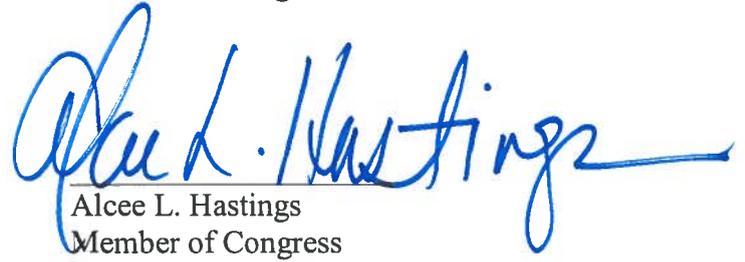
Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



Richard M. Nolan  
Member of Congress



Charles B. Rangel  
Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress



Leonard Lance  
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



Al Green  
Member of Congress



Daniel W. Lipinski  
Member of Congress



Marcia L. Fudge  
Member of Congress



Albio Sires  
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress

Walter B. Jones  
Walter B. Jones  
Member of Congress

Tim Murphy  
Tim Murphy  
Member of Congress

Linda T. Sánchez  
Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress

Don Young  
Don Young  
Member of Congress

Doris Matsui  
Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress

Bob Goodlatte  
Bob Goodlatte  
Member of Congress

Lloyd Doggett  
Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress

G. K. Butterfield  
G. K. Butterfield  
Member of Congress

Peter Welch  
Peter Welch  
Member of Congress

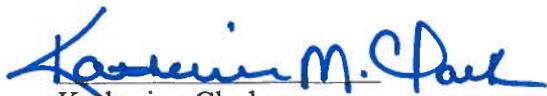
Mydia M. Velázquez  
Mydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress

Chaka Fattah  
Chaka Fattah  
Member of Congress

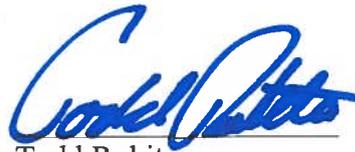
Bill Shuster  
Bill Shuster  
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee  
Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

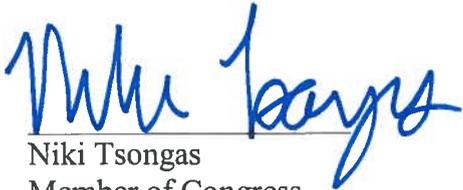
Marsha Blackburn  
Marsha Blackburn  
Member of Congress



Katherine Clark  
Member of Congress



Todd Rokita  
Member of Congress



Niki Tsongas  
Member of Congress



Michael M. Honda  
Member of Congress



Rick Crawford  
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress



Chris Gibson  
Member of Congress



Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress



Dan Newhouse  
Member of Congress



John K. Delaney  
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



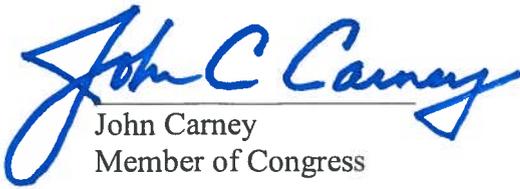
Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress



Tulsi Gabbard  
Member of Congress



Hakeem Jeffries  
Member of Congress

  
John Carney  
Member of Congress

  
Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress

  
Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen  
Member of Congress

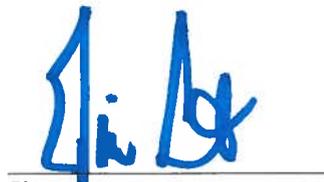
  
Beto O'Rourke  
Member of Congress

  
Roger Williams  
Member of Congress

  
Raul Ruiz  
Member of Congress

  
Brad Wenstrup  
Member of Congress

  
Grace Meng  
Member of Congress

  
Jim Costa  
Member of Congress

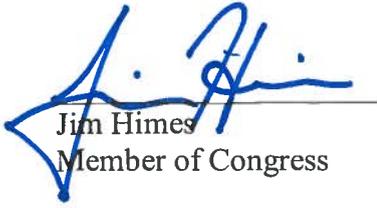
  
Robyn L. Kelly  
Member of Congress

  
Brenda L. Lawrence  
Member of Congress

  
Sander M. Levin  
Member of Congress

  
Alex X. Mooney  
Member of Congress

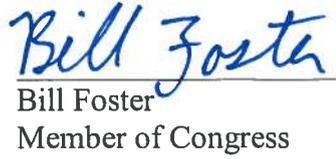
  
French Hill  
Member of Congress



Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



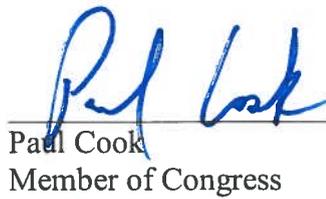
Xavier Becerra  
Member of Congress



Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



Pete Aguilar  
Member of Congress



Paul Cook  
Member of Congress



Adam Kinzinger  
Member of Congress



Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress



Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress



Susan A. Davis  
Member of Congress



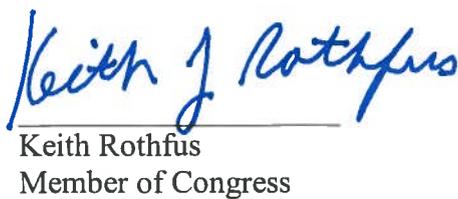
Loretta Sanchez  
Member of Congress



Renee Ellmers  
Member of Congress



Scott Perry  
Member of Congress



Keith Rothfus  
Member of Congress



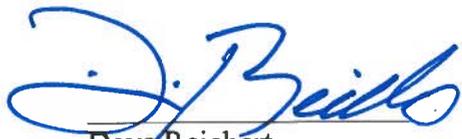
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



Diane Black  
Member of Congress



Dave Reichert  
Member of Congress



Sam Farr  
Member of Congress



John Katko  
Member of Congress



Scott Peters  
Member of Congress



Jason Smith  
Member of Congress



Chris Collins  
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



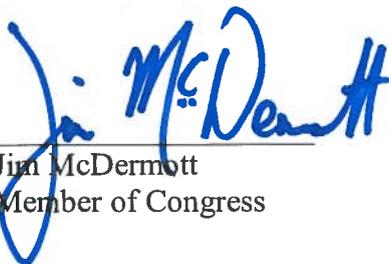
Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress



Tim Huelskamp  
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



Jim McDermott  
Member of Congress



Tim Walz  
Member of Congress



Kevin Cramer  
Member of Congress



Bill Flores  
Member of Congress



Martha McSally  
Member of Congress



Blake Farenthold  
Member of Congress



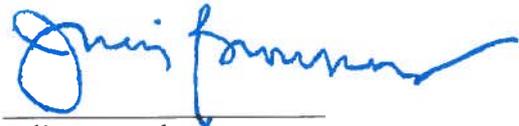
Mark Meadows  
Member of Congress



Steve Knight  
Member of Congress



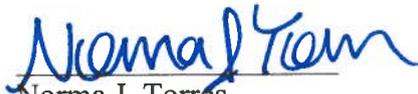
Steve Stivers  
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



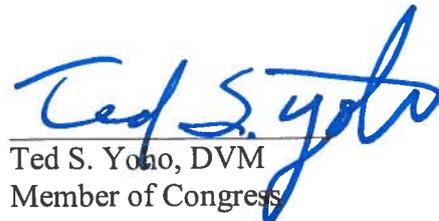
Dan Benishek, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Rick Allen  
Member of Congress



Elise M. Stefanik  
Member of Congress



Ted S. Yoho, DVM  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



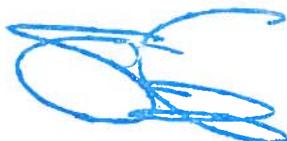
Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress



Kyrsten Sinema  
Member of Congress



Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress



Dave Loebsack  
Member of Congress



Lynn Jenkins, CPA  
Member of Congress



Mike Kelly  
Member of Congress



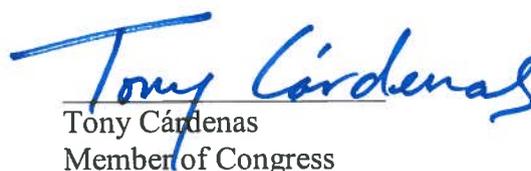
Lee Zeldin  
Member of Congress



Jody Hice  
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress



Kathleen M. Rice  
Member of Congress



Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



Susan W. Brooks  
Member of Congress



Ron Kind  
Member of Congress



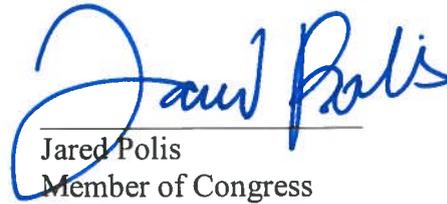
John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



Mike Bost  
Member of Congress



Joseph Crowley  
Member of Congress



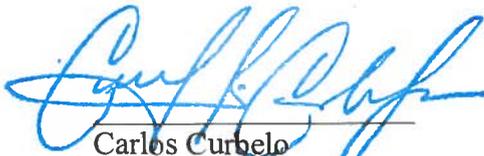
Jared Polis  
Member of Congress



Andy Barr  
Member of Congress



Charles W. Boustany, Jr., M.D.  
Member of Congress



Carlos Curbelo  
Member of Congress



Matt Cartwright  
Member of Congress



Sam Graves  
Member of Congress



Michael E. Capuano  
Member of Congress



Ed Perlmutter  
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress

*Denny Heck*

Denny Heck  
Member of Congress

*D-d Rouzer*

David Rouzer  
Member of Congress

*Vihb.*

Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan  
Member of Congress

*K. Takai*

Mark Takai  
Member of Congress

*Joe Pitts*

Joseph R. Pitts  
Member of Congress

*Scott Rigell*

Scott Rigell  
Member of Congress

*Ralph Abraham*

Ralph Abraham, M.D.  
Member of Congress

*Ken Buck*

Ken Buck  
Member of Congress

*Ted W. Lieu*

Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress

*Marc Veasey*

Marc Veasey  
Member of Congress

*Scott DesJarlais*

Scott DesJarlais, M.D.  
Member of Congress

*David B. McKinley*

David B. McKinley, P.E.  
Member of Congress

*Tom Marino*

Tom Marino  
Member of Congress

*Karen Bass*

Karen Bass  
Member of Congress



---

Suzan DelBene  
Member of Congress



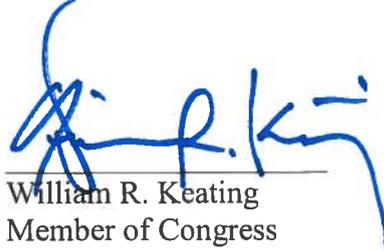
---

Will Hurd  
Member of Congress



---

Brian Babin  
Member of Congress



---

William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



---

Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



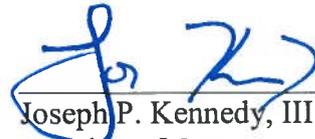
---

Mark Walker  
Member of Congress



---

Robert A. Brady  
Member of Congress



---

Joseph P. Kennedy, III  
Member of Congress



---

Alan Grayson  
Member of Congress



---

Kevin Brady  
Member of Congress



---

James E. Clyburn  
Member of Congress



---

Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress



---

Cedric Richmond  
Member of Congress



---

Mike Doyle  
Member of Congress



Stacey E. Plaskett  
Member of Congress



George Holding  
Member of Congress



Tom Emmer  
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman  
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



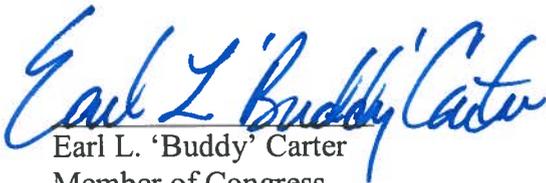
James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



Filemon Vela  
Member of Congress



Patrick Meehan  
Member of Congress



Earl L. 'Buddy' Carter  
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



Crescent Hardy  
Member of Congress



Richard Hudson  
Member of Congress



Ryan A. Costello  
Member of Congress



Bruce Poliquin  
Member of Congress



Phil Roe, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Elizabeth H. Esty  
Member of Congress



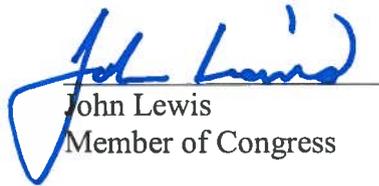
Janice Hahn  
Member of Congress



John Yarmuth  
Member of Congress



Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



John Lewis  
Member of Congress



Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress



Peter T. King  
Member of Congress



Jim Renacci  
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



Frank C. Guinta  
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa  
Member of Congress



Candice Miller  
Member of Congress



Richard Hanna  
Member of Congress



Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress



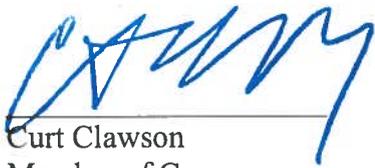
Mimi Walters  
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



Dennis A. Ross  
Member of Congress



Curt Clawson  
Member of Congress



Dan Kildee  
Member of Congress



Barbara Comstock  
Member of Congress



David Scott  
Member of Congress



Tom Rice  
Member of Congress



Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress



Robert J. Dold  
Member of Congress



Scott Tipton  
Member of Congress



Mia Love  
Member of Congress



Michelle Lujan Grisham  
Member of Congress



Rod Blum  
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



Patrick E. Murphy  
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress



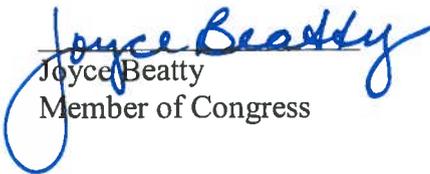
Garret Graves  
Member of Congress



Ann Kirkpatrick  
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress



Joe Heck, D.O.  
Member of Congress



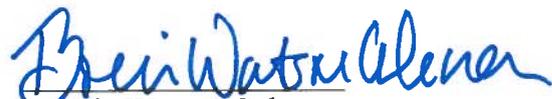
Michael T. McCaul  
Member of Congress



Bruce Westerman  
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



Robert Hurt  
Member of Congress



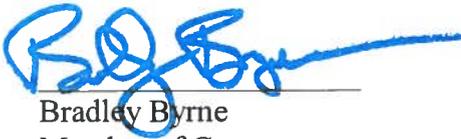
Glenn "GT" Thompson  
Member of Congress



Rob Bishop  
Member of Congress



Bill Posey  
Member of Congress



Bradley Byrne  
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



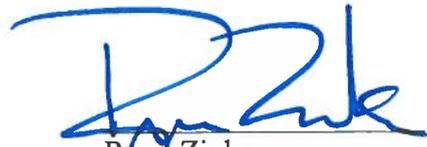
John Moolenaar  
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



Lou Barletta  
Member of Congress



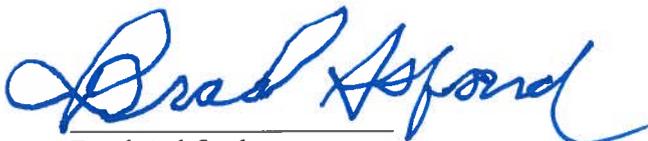
Ryan Zinke  
Member of Congress



James R. Langevin  
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress



Brad Ashford  
Member of Congress



Tammy Duckworth  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "DMP, Jr.", with a horizontal line drawn through the middle of the signature.

Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress