



**Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives**

July 31, 2015

Secretary Jeh Johnson  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Johnson:

In May of this year, 136 Members of Congress wrote to you to express serious concern regarding the Department of Homeland Security's detention of thousands of mothers and children in secure, jail-like facilities. The purpose of the letter was to alert you to the strong evidence that such detention is detrimental to mothers and children and is not reflective of our Nation's values. The detained population is largely comprised of refugees fleeing violence and persecution, many of whom have serious medical and mental health needs that have been inadequately addressed in custody. We urged you to end the use of family detention.

Last Friday, U.S. District Judge Dolly M. Gee issued a ruling that the Department's family detention practices constitute a material breach of a Court-approved class-wide settlement agreement. *Flores v. Johnson*, CV 85-4544 (C.D. Cal. July 24, 2015). Judge Gee found that the Department's decision to house children in secure facilities that are not licensed by any State agency to care for dependent children violated the 20-year-old Flores settlement agreement. The court also rejected the Department's request to amend that settlement agreement in lieu of remedying the numerous violations of the agreement.

It is long past time to end family detention. In light of this recent federal court ruling, we urge you take all necessary and appropriate steps to bring the Department's practices in line with the settlement agreement and the court ruling.

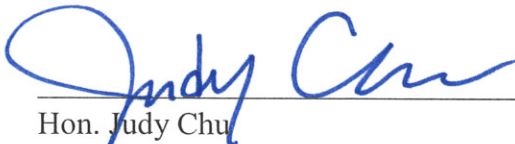
Sincerely,

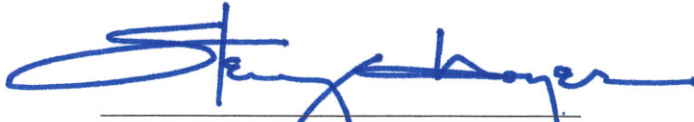
  
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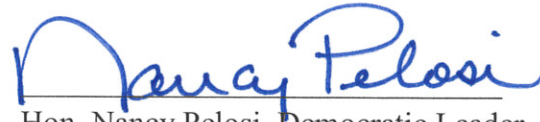
  
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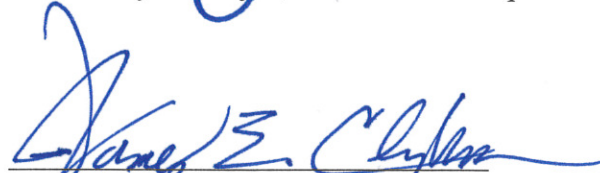
  
Hon. Luis V. Gutiérrez


  
Hon. Grace F. Napolitano

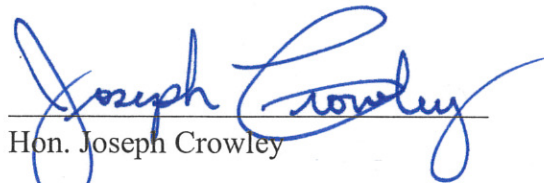
  
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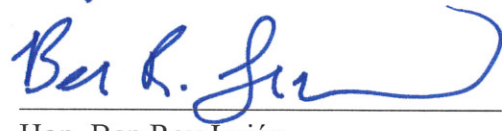
  
Hon. Steny H. Hoyer, Democratic Whip

  
Hon. Nancy Pelosi, Democratic Leader

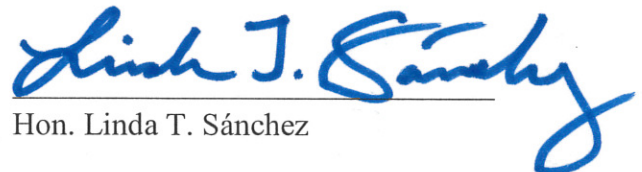
  
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Hon. Xavier Becerra


  
Hon. Joseph Crowley

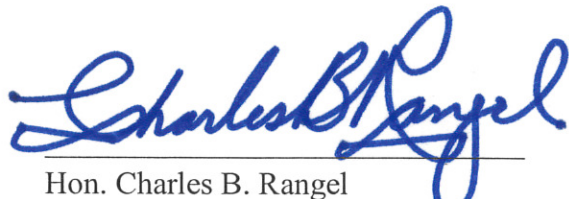
  
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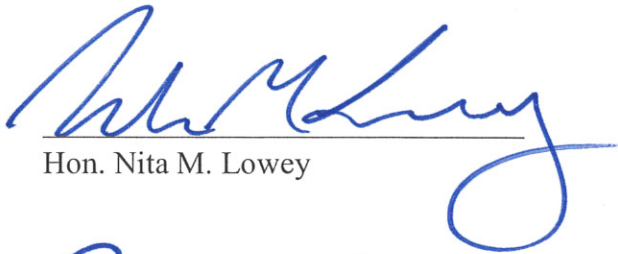
  
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Hon. Marcy Kaptur

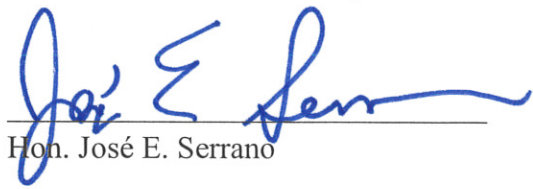
  
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Hon. Eliot L. Engel



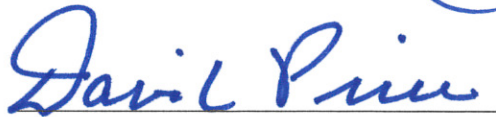
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Hon. Nita M. Lowey



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Hon. José E. Serrano



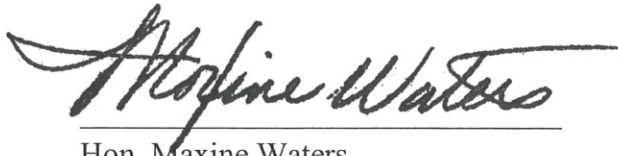
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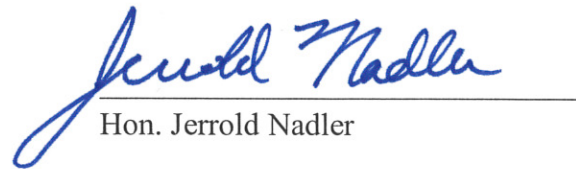
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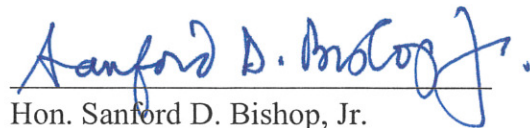
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Hon. Maxine Waters



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Hon. Jerrold Nadler



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Hon. Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.



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Hon. Gene Green



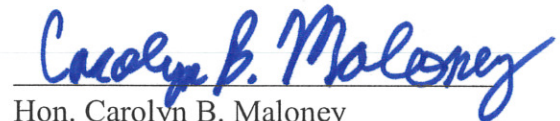
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Hon. Alcee L. Hastings



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Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson



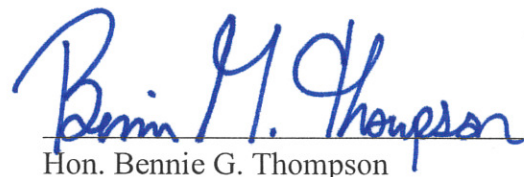
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Hon. Carolyn B. Maloney



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Hon. Nydia M. Velázquez



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Hon. Bennie G. Thompson




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Hon. Lloyd Doggett



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Hon. Chaka Fattah

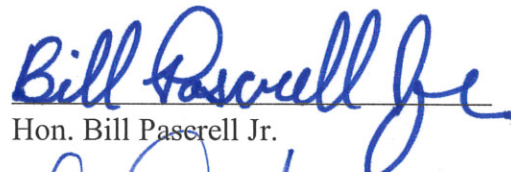
  
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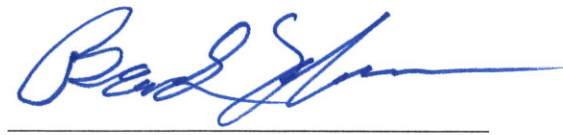
  
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Hon. Diana DeGette

  
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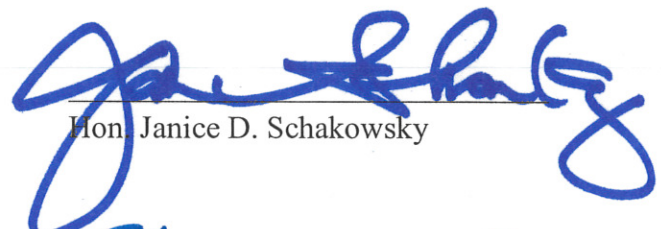
  
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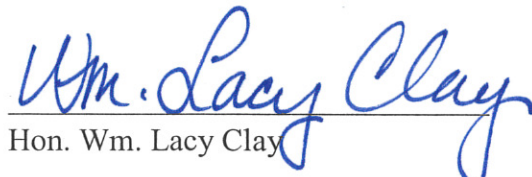
  
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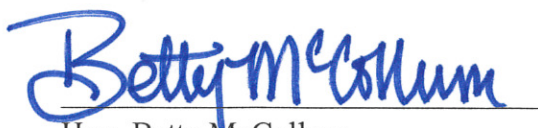
  
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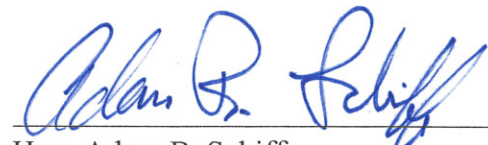
  
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Hon. Janice D. Schakowsky

  
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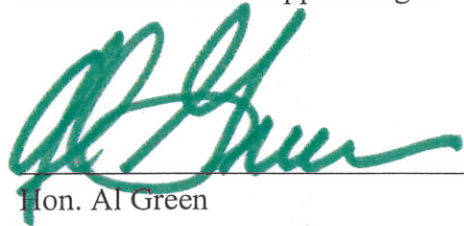
  
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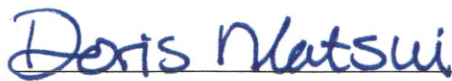
  
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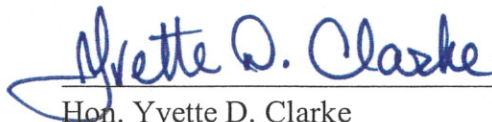
Hon. C.A. Dutch Ruppberger



Hon. Al Green



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Hon. Yvette D. Clarke



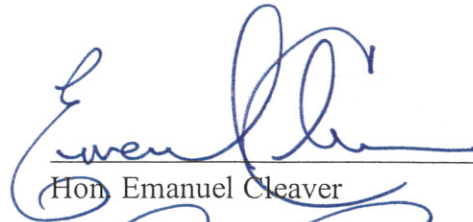
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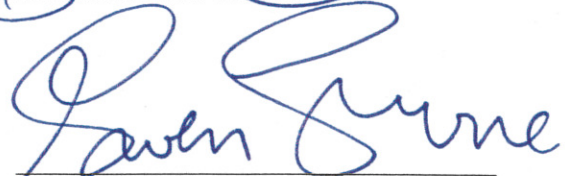
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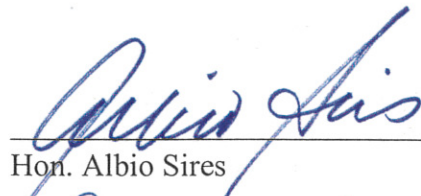
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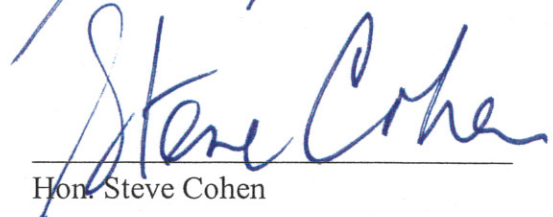
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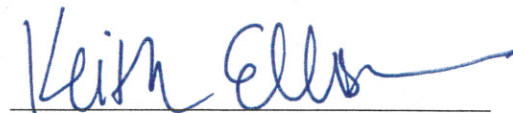
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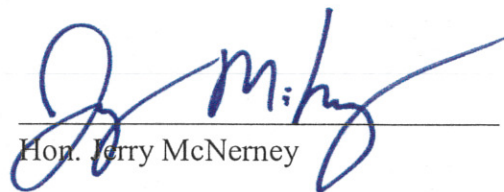
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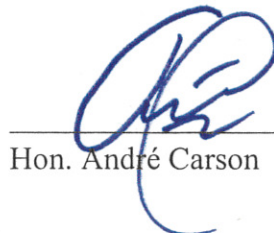
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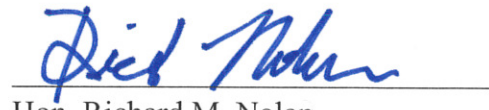


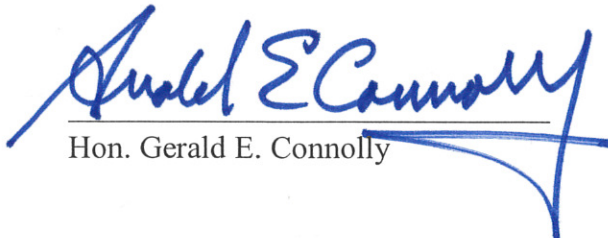
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Hon. Donna F. Edwards

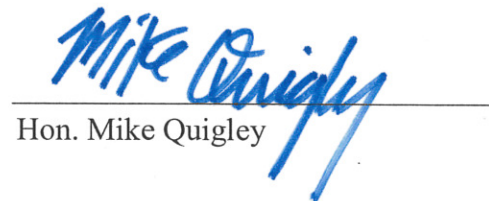
  
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Hon. Gerald E. Connolly

  
Hon. Chellie Pingree

  
Hon. Paul Tonko

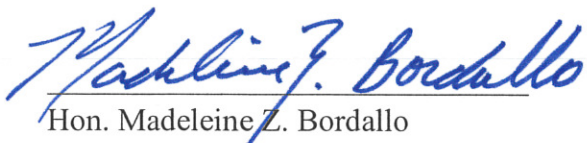
  
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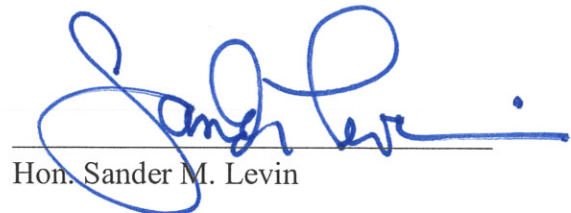
  
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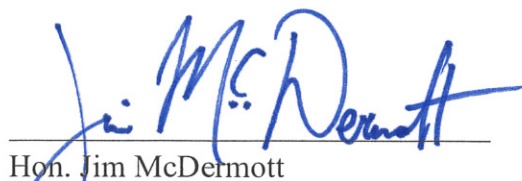
  
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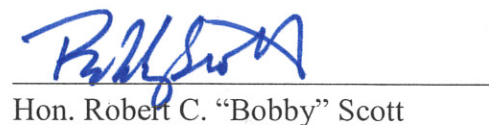
  
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Hon. Eleanor Holmes Norton

  
Hon. Madeleine Z. Bordallo

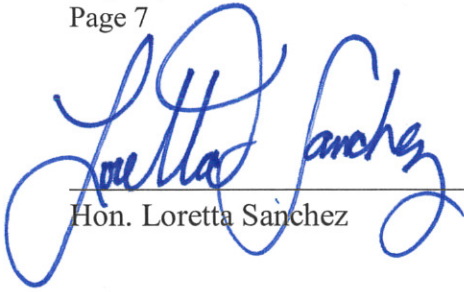
  
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Hon. Jim McDermott

  
Hon. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott

  
Hon. Sam Farr

  
Hon. Earl Blumenauer



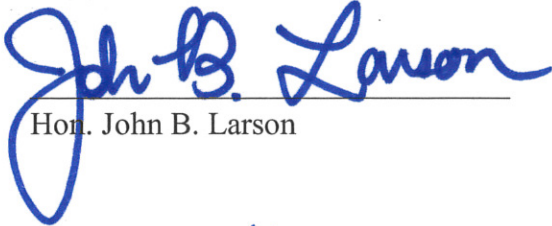
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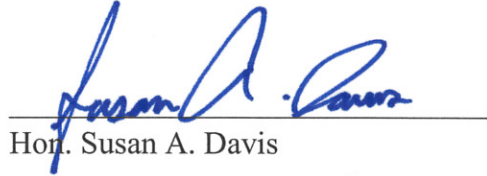
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Hon. Michael E. Capuano



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Hon. John B. Larson



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Hon. Susan A. Davis



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Hon. Michael M. Honda



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Hon. Raúl M. Grijalva



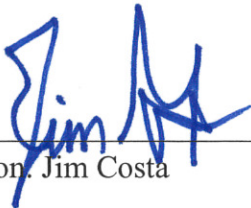
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Hon. Tim Ryan



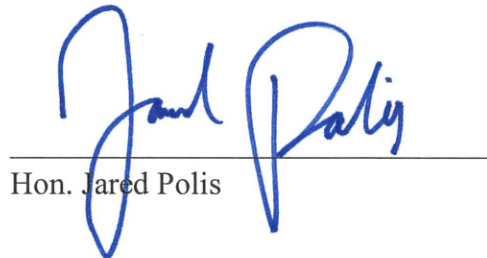
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Hon. Jim Costa



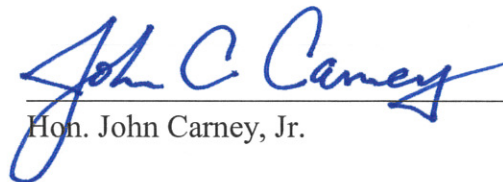
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Hon. Jared Polis



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Hon. Bill Foster



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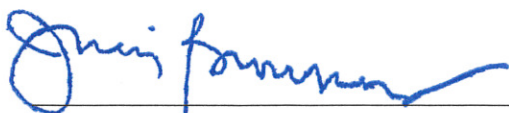
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Hon. Terri Sewell



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Hon. Ami Bera



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Hon. Julia Brownley



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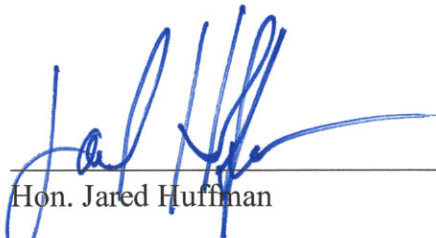
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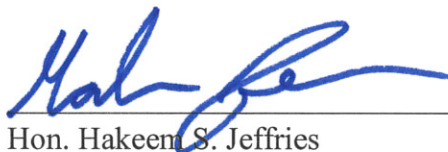
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Hon. Tulsi Gabbard



Hon. Jared Huffman



Hon. Hakeem S. Jeffries



Hon. Derek Kilmer



Hon. Grace Meng



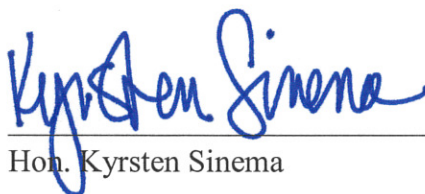
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Hon. Scott H. Peters



Hon. Raul Ruiz



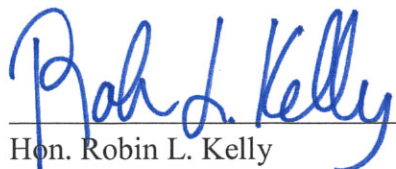
Hon. Kyrsten Sinema



Hon. Mark Takano



Hon. Juan Vargas



Hon. Robin L. Kelly



Hon. Katherine M. Clark



Hon. Donald Norcross

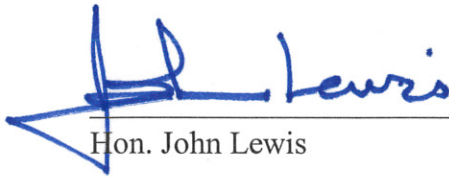


Hon. Pete Aguilar





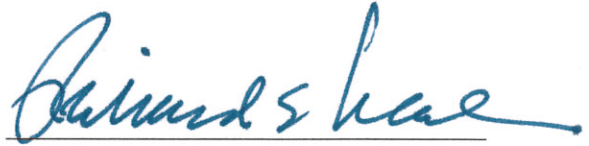
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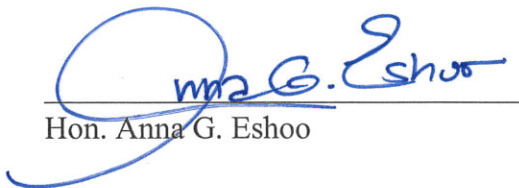
Hon. John Lewis




Hon. Frank Pallone, Jr.



Hon. Richard Neal



Hon. Anna G. Eshoo



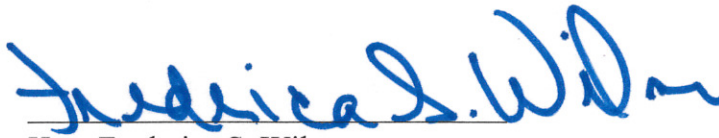
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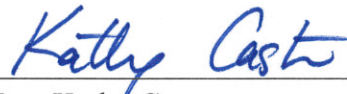
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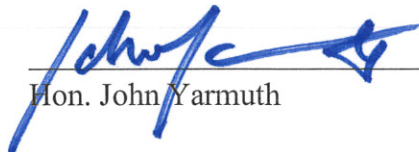
Hon. Mike Thompson



Hon. Frederica S. Wilson



Hon. Kathy Castor



Hon. John Yarmuth



Hon. Karen Bass



Hon. William R. Keating




Hon. Cedric L. Richmond




Hon. Janice Hahn



Hon. Suzanne Bonamici

  
Hon. Suzan K. DelBene

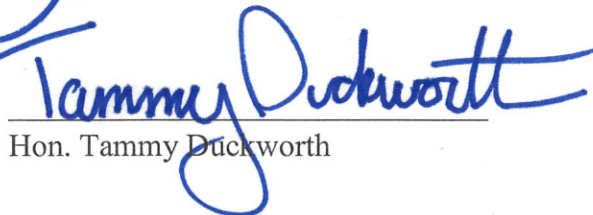
  
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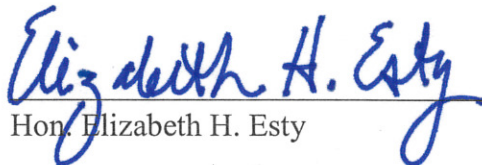
  
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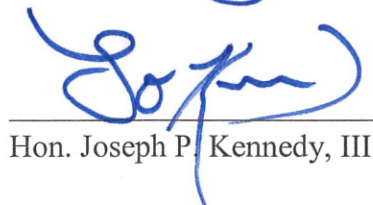
  
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Hon. Joyce Beatty

  
Hon. Joaquin Castro

  
Hon. Tammy Duckworth

  
Hon. Elizabeth H. Esty

  
Hon. Joseph P. Kennedy, III

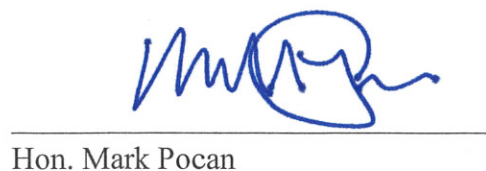
  
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Hon. Ann M. Kuster

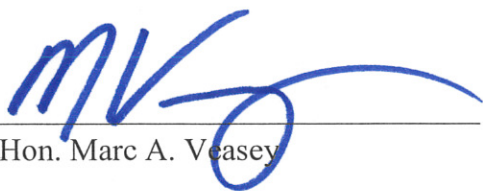
  
Hon. Alan Lowenthal

  
Hon. Michelle Lujan Grisham

  
Hon. Patrick E. Murphy

  
Hon. Mark Pocan

  
Hon. Eric Swalwell



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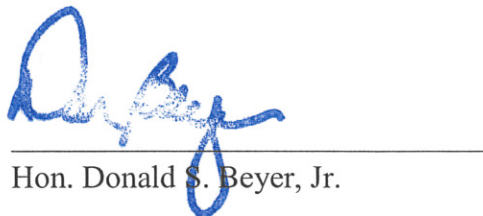
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Hon. Filemon Vela



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Hon. Alma Adams



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Hon. Donald S. Beyer, Jr.



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Hon. Bonnie Watson Coleman



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Hon. Mark DeSaulnier



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Hon. Debbie Dingell



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Hon. Ted Lieu



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Hon. Mark Takai



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Hon. Norma J. Torres



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Hon. James R. Langevin



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Hon. Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan



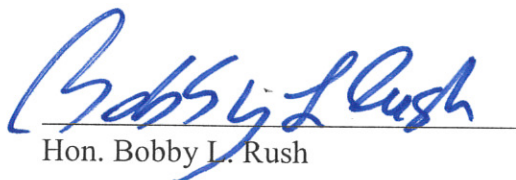
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Hon. Debbie Wasserman Schultz



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Hon. Brenda L. Lawrence



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Hon. Bobby L. Rush



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Hon. Stacey E. Plaskett



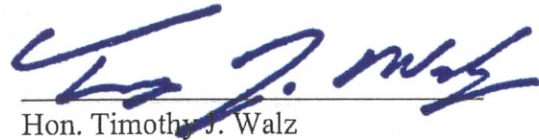
Hon. Niki Tsongas



Hon. Denny Heck



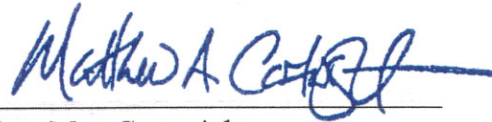
Hon. Brian Higgins



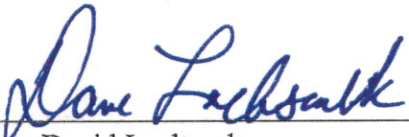
Hon. Timothy J. Walz



Hon. Cheri Bustos



Hon. Matt Cartwright



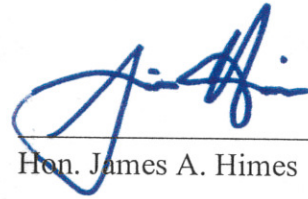
Hon. David Loeb sack



Hon. John P. Sarbanes



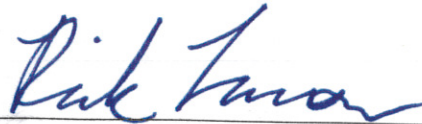
Hon. Brad Ashford



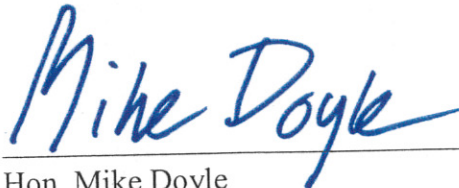
Hon. James A. Himes



Hon. Peter A. DeFazio



Hon. Rick Larsen



Hon. Mike Doyle



Hon. Ed Perlmutter



Hon. Pedro Pierluisi



Hon. Kathleen M. Rice