

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 15, 2023

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Speaker of the House  
U.S House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Democratic Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker McCarthy and Democratic Leader Jeffries:

Thank you for your long-standing support of our nation's safety-net providers and the communities they serve. This support has been vital in ensuring patient access to essential health care services during the public health emergency. We write to urge action to address pending cuts to Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) payments, scheduled to take effect on October 1, 2023. If the proposed cuts go into effect, rural and urban safety net hospitals will lose critical funding that enables them to keep their doors open and treat the most vulnerable Americans.

Medicaid DSH payments are an important tool for hospitals that provide care in underserved communities, where they serve a disproportionate number of low-income and uninsured patients. In treating those that have nowhere else to turn, these hospitals incur significant uncompensated care costs. Furthermore, these same hospitals typically operate on very narrow, or even negative, margins. Medicaid DSH payments allow them to continue serving our constituents and communities. These payments support safety net hospitals in cities across the country and are also especially important to rural hospitals, which often face their own added financial burdens.

Since 2013, Congress has recognized the critical need for Medicaid DSH payments by passing thirteen pieces of legislation delaying what would have been immediate cuts to the program. Most recently, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 delayed DSH reductions until FY 2024.

On October 1st, safety net hospitals will face an \$8 billion annual cut that is equivalent to more than two-thirds of annual federal DSH spending. These cuts would continue apace through FY2027. Importantly, these cuts don't impact states evenly. In fact, some states, according to the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission (MACPAC), will face cuts of 90 percent of their current DSH allotments.

Our nation's rural and urban safety net hospitals cannot sustain losses of this magnitude, leaving our constituents and communities without access to the medical care they depend on and need.

We ask that you work to avert the scheduled reductions so our nation's safety-net hospitals can continue to care for the most vulnerable in our communities. As you know, the bipartisan H.R. 2665, the Supporting Safety Net Hospitals Act, was recently introduced to eliminate the cuts for FY24 and FY25 entirely. This legislation is a reasonable and responsible path to take in order to avoid the disastrous consequences to our safety net hospitals if the Medicaid DSH cuts were to

take effect. It is imperative we continue to protect access to Medicaid beneficiaries who heavily rely on the essential services provided through Medicaid DSH program.

We look forward to working with you on a solution and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



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Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



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Dan Crenshaw  
Member of Congress



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Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



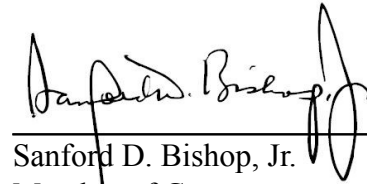
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Michael C. Burgess, M.D.  
Member of Congress



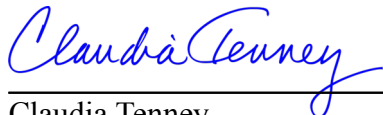
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Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



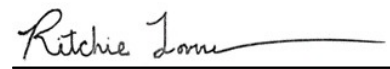
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Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Claudia Tenney  
Member of Congress



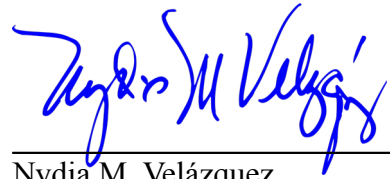
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Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



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Paul Tonko  
Member of Congress



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Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



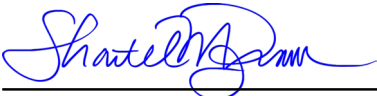
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Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress



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Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



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Shontel M. Brown  
Member of Congress



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Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



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Katie Porter  
Member of Congress



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Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



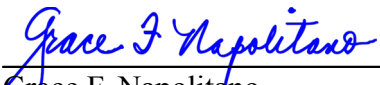
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Daniel T. Kildee  
Member of Congress



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Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress



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Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress



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Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



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Michael V. Lawler  
Member of Congress



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August Pfluger  
Member of Congress



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Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



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Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



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Donald G. Davis  
Member of Congress



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Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



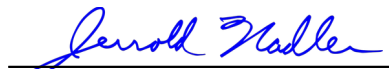
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Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress

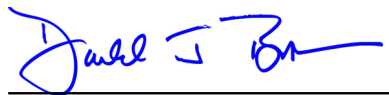


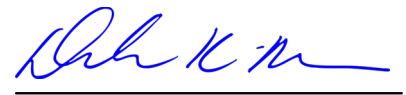
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Eric A. "Rick" Crawford  
Member of Congress

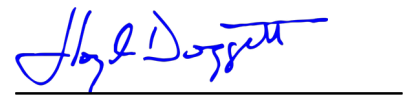
  
Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress

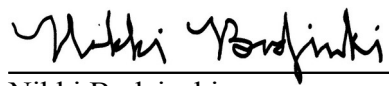
  
Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress


  
Don Bacon  
Member of Congress

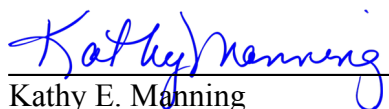
  
Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress


  
Lisa Blunt Rochester  
Member of Congress

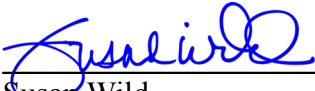
  
Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress

  
Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress

  
Bruce Westerman  
Member of Congress

  
Kathy E. Manning  
Member of Congress

  
Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



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Susan Wild  
Member of Congress



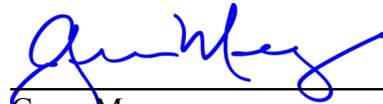
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Andrew R. Garbarino  
Member of Congress



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Elissa Slotkin  
Member of Congress




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Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



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Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



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Nicholas A. Langworthy  
Member of Congress



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Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



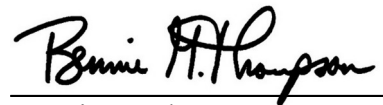
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Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



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Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



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Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



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Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress



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Carol D. Miller  
Member of Congress



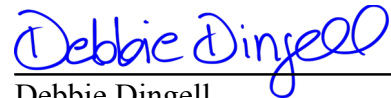
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Nathaniel Moran  
Member of Congress



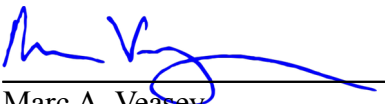
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Troy Carter  
Member of Congress



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Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



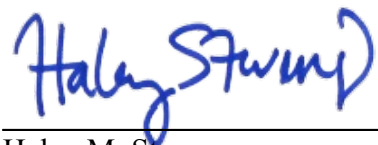
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Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



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Joseph D. Morelle  
Member of Congress



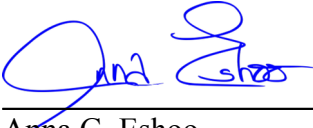
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Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



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Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



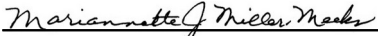
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Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress



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Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



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Mariannette Miller-Meeks,  
M.D.  
Member of Congress



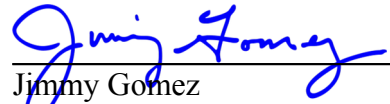
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Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



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Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



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Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



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Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress



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Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



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Anthony D'Esposito  
Member of Congress





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John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



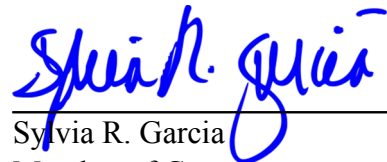
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Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



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Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



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Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



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Michael T. McCaul  
Member of Congress



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Michael Guest  
Member of Congress



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Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



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Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



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Joe Wilson  
Member of Congress



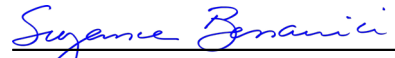
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Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



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Patrick Ryan  
Member of Congress



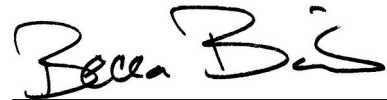
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Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



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Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



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Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



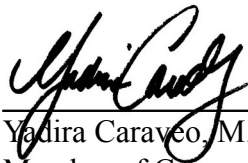
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Nicole Malliotakis  
Member of Congress



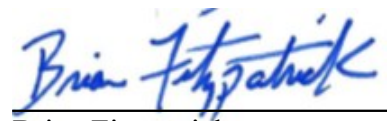
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Marcus J. Molinaro  
Member of Congress



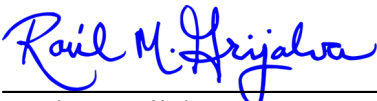
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Yadira Caraveo, M.D.  
Member of Congress



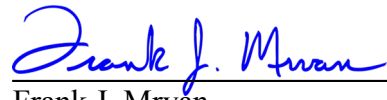
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Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



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Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



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Frank J. Mrvan  
Member of Congress



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Brian Babin, D.D.S.  
Member of Congress



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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



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Nick LaLota  
Member of Congress



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Garret Graves  
Member of Congress



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Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



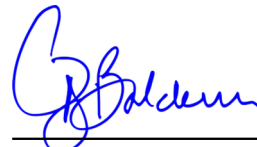
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Jake Auchincloss  
Member of Congress



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David G. Valadao  
Member of Congress



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Troy Balderson  
Member of Congress



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James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress




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Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Mike Garcia  
Member of Congress



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Angie Craig  
Member of Congress



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Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



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Colin Z. Allred  
Member of Congress



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Michael K. Simpson  
Member of Congress



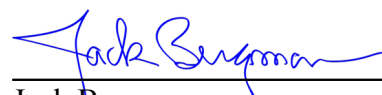
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Josh Harder  
Member of Congress



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Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.  
Member of Congress



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Jack Bergman  
Member of Congress



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Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



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Mike Bost  
Member of Congress



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Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress



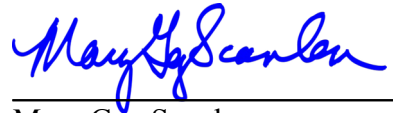
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Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



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Randy Feenstra  
Member of Congress



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Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress



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Brandon Williams  
Member of Congress



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Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Gus M. Bilirakis  
Member of Congress



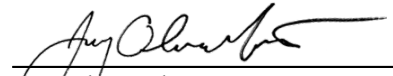
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Jerry L. Carl  
Member of Congress



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Lucy McBath  
Member of Congress



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Jay Obernolte  
Member of Congress



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Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Melanie Stansbury  
Member of Congress



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Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Cori Bush  
Member of Congress



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Jake Ellzey  
Member of Congress



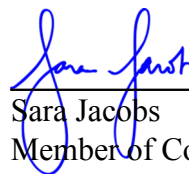
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Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress



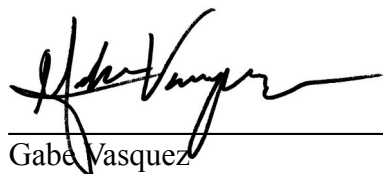
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Trent Kelly  
Member of Congress



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Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



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Gabe Vasquez  
Member of Congress



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Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



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Jared Moskowitz  
Member of Congress



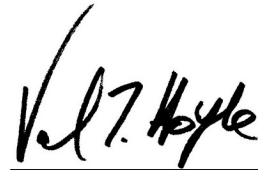
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David Scott  
Member of Congress



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Ronny L. Jackson, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Val Hoyle  
Member of Congress



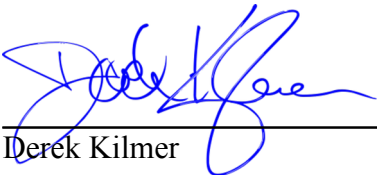
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Aumua Amata Coleman  
Radewagen  
Member of Congress



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Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress



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Derek Kilmer  
Member of Congress



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Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



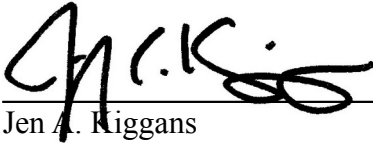
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Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress



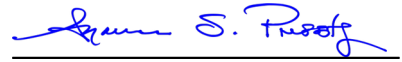
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Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



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Jen A. Higgans  
Member of Congress



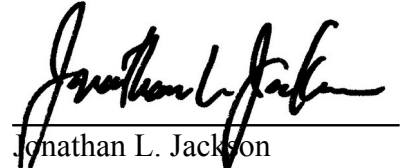
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Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress



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Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



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Al Green  
Member of Congress



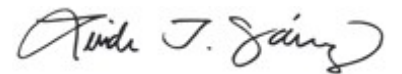
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Dusty Johnson  
Member of Congress



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Earl L. "Buddy" Carter  
Member of Congress



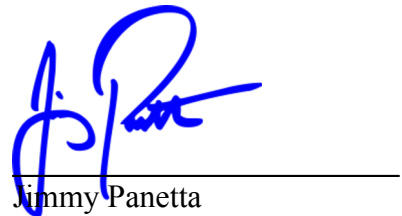
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Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



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J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress



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Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress





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Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



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Mike Ezell  
Member of Congress



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Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



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Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress



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J. H. Tokuda  
Member of Congress



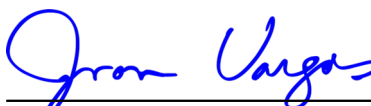
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Jake LaTurner  
Member of Congress



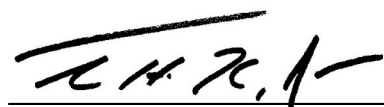
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Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress



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Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



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Thomas H. Kean, Jr.  
Member of Congress



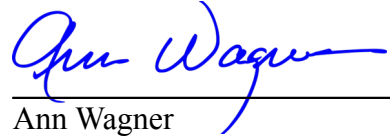
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Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



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Mike Carey  
Member of Congress



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Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress



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Sydney Kamlager-Dove  
Member of Congress



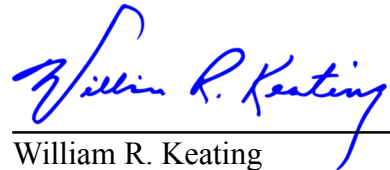
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Mike Rogers  
Member of Congress



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Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



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William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



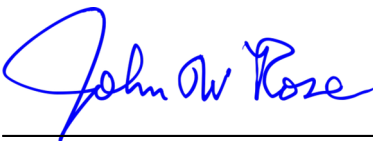
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Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress



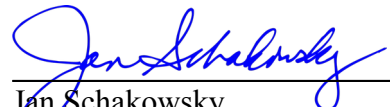
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Austin Scott  
Member of Congress



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John Rose  
Member of Congress



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Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



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Young Kim  
Member of Congress



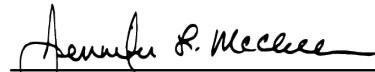
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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



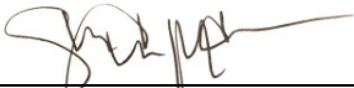
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Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress



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Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



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Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress



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Brad Finstad  
Member of Congress



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Neal P. Dunn, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Daniel Meuser  
Member of Congress



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Kat Cammack  
Member of Congress



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Blaine Luetkemeyer  
Member of Congress



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John Joyce, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Robert B. Aderholt  
Member of Congress



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Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



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Dean Phillips  
Member of Congress



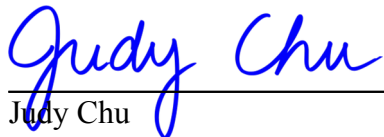
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Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



---

Guy Reschenthaler  
Member of Congress



---

Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



---

Henry Cuellar  
Member of Congress



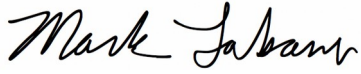
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A. Drew Ferguson IV  
Member of Congress



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Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



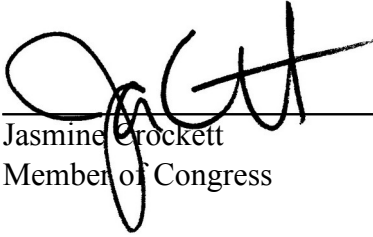
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Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



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Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



---

Jasmine Crockett  
Member of Congress



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Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



---

Andy Kim  
Member of Congress



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Harriet M. Hageman  
Member of Congress



---

Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



---

Maxwell Alejandro Frost  
Member of Congress



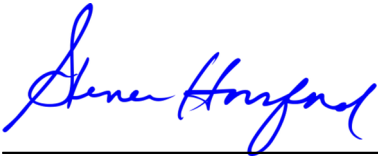
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Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress



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Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



---

Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress



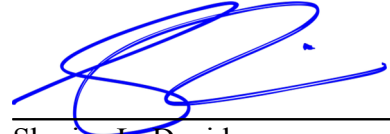
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Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



---

Mark Alford  
Member of Congress



---

Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress



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Barry Loudermilk  
Member of Congress



---

Mary Sattler Peltola  
Member of Congress



---

Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress



---

Tracey Mann  
Member of Congress



---

Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



---

Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



---

Eric Sorensen  
Member of Congress



---

Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



---

Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



---

Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



---

Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress  
Ranking Member,  
Subcommittee on Cyber,  
Information Technologies,  
and Innovation



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Greg Casar  
Member of Congress



---

Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress



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Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



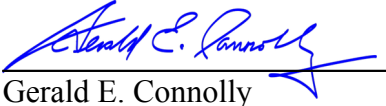
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Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress

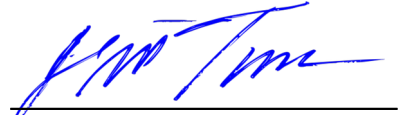


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John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



David J. Trone  
Member of Congress



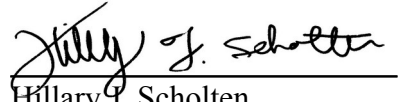
John R. Moolenaar  
Member of Congress



Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress



Christopher Deluzio  
Member of Congress



Hillary J. Scholten  
Member of Congress



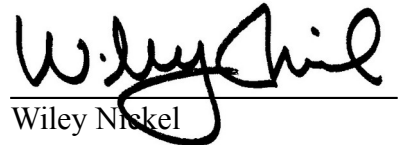
Aaron Bean  
Member of Congress



Tom Cole  
Member of Congress



Susie Lee  
Member of Congress



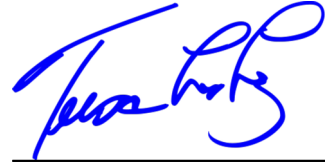
Wiley Nickel  
Member of Congress





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Matt Cartwright  
Member of Congress



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Teresa Leger Fernández  
Member of Congress



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Lauren Underwood  
Member of Congress