

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 13, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States of America  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

We write to urge you to retract your dangerous February 4, 2025, comments declaring that the civilian Palestinian population of the Gaza Strip be permanently relocated, and that the United States “take over” the territory, “own” it, and turn it into the “Riviera of the Middle East.”<sup>1</sup>

Now more than ever, the United States must play a constructive role in the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. That is why we are alarmed that an American president would advocate for the forcible removal and permanent displacement of two million people. Such an act would not only be morally indefensible, but it would also violate the Geneva Convention, jeopardize US interests and troops, and undermine our global standing.<sup>2</sup> The mere suggestion that American men and women in uniform or other U.S. personnel should be ordered to carry out such a crime in a volatile war zone is reckless and dangerous. Even to attempt the forcible removal of two million people would lead to an untold number of American casualties and a monumental increase in terrorism worldwide.

Following Hamas’s October 7<sup>th</sup> massacre – the deadliest mass murder of Jews since the Holocaust – and the devastation caused by the ensuing Israel-Hamas war, the region is in dire need of real solutions. The United States cannot promote forced displacement as a solution to this conflict. Such a move risks destabilizing the delicate ceasefire currently in place, endangering hostages still being held by Hamas, fueling extremist sentiments, and serving as a recruiting tool for terrorist organizations. As evidenced by the 1970 Black September in Jordan and the Palestinian insurgency in Lebanon of the 60s and 70s, hosting a Palestinian population in neighboring countries will neither guarantee Israel’s security nor substitute a long-term political solution.

Your remarks also risk jeopardizing the opportunity for the United States to work with our Arab partners – who have reaffirmed their commitment to comprehensive regional peace based on the rebuilding of Gaza and a pathway to a two-state solution. Rather than pursue the illegal and immoral path you have proposed, we urge you to work with Israel, as well as regional and global partners, to uphold the ceasefire agreement and bring all of the hostages home. Together, we can develop a realistic, internationally-backed, and funded plan to make Gaza livable for its existing residents as quickly as possible.

Our commitment to Israel's security is unwavering, and we will work together to ensure that Israel never experiences another terrorist attack from Gaza like the one on October 7, 2023. A comprehensive regional agreement, including normalization between Israel and Saudi Arabia and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state alongside the Jewish and democratic State of Israel, is the only viable long-term solution that can guarantee peace, stability, and security for both the Israeli and Palestinian people.

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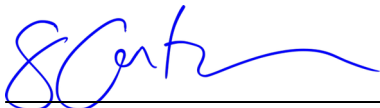
<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/02/04/us/politics/trump-gaza-strip-netanyahu.html>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocity-crimes/Doc.33\\_GC-IV-EN.pdf](https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocity-crimes/Doc.33_GC-IV-EN.pdf)

We look forward to working with you to advance equality, dignity, and lasting peace. However, we will not waver in our opposition to policies that undermine U.S. interests, law, and America's principled moral position.

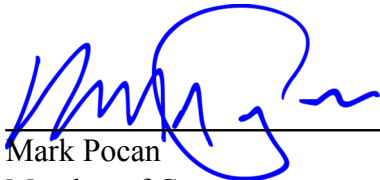
Sincerely,

Sincerely,



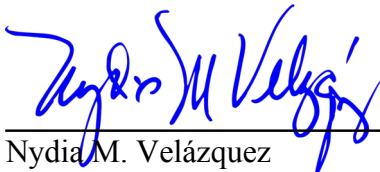
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Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



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Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



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Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



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Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



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Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



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Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



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



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Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



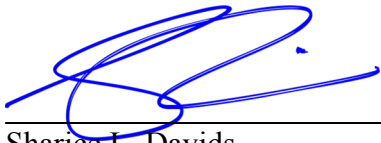
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James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



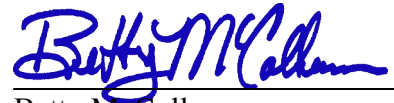
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Val Hoyle  
Member of Congress



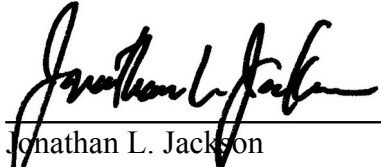
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Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress



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Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



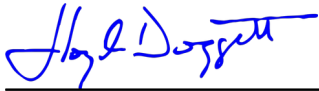
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Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



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Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress




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Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



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Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



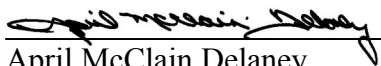
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Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



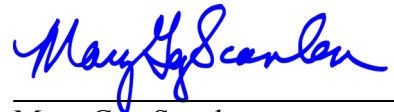
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Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



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April McClain Delaney  
Member of Congress



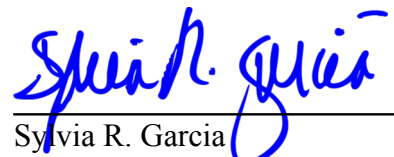
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Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress



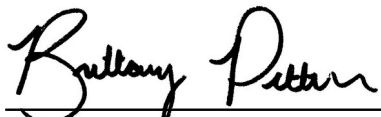
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Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



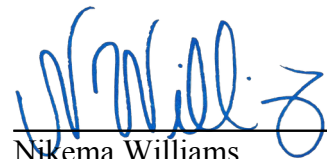
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Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



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Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress



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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



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Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



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Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



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Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress



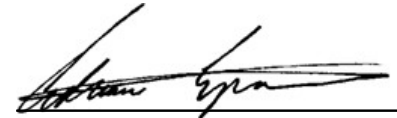
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Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



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Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



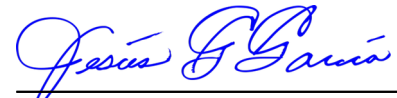
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Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress



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Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress



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Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



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Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



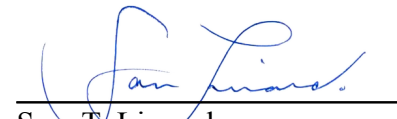
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Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



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Sydney Kamlager-Dove  
Member of Congress



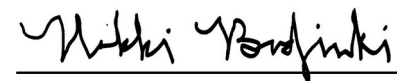
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Sam T. Liccardo  
Member of Congress



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Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress



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Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



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Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



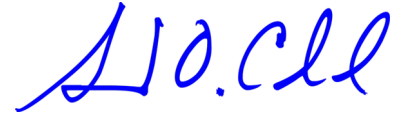
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Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



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Frank J. Mrvan  
Member of Congress



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Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



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MARK TAKANO  
Member of Congress



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Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



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Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



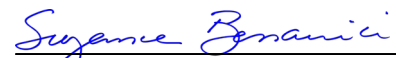
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Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress



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Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



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Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



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Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



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Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress

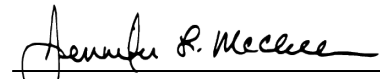


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Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



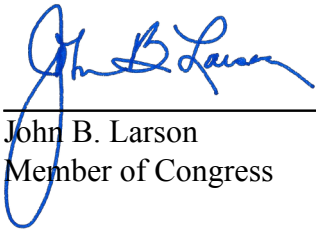
Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress



Troy A. Carter, Sr.  
Member of Congress



John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress



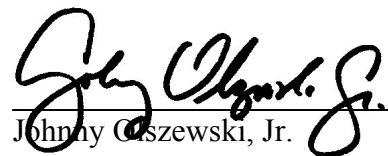
Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



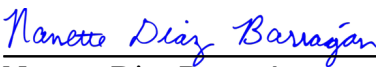
Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



Johnny Giszewski, Jr.  
Member of Congress



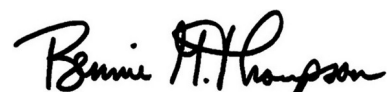
Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



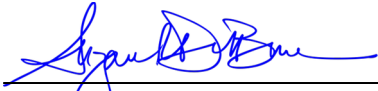
Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress

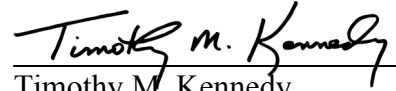


Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



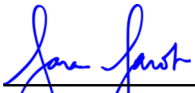
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Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



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Timothy M. Kennedy  
Member of Congress



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Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



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Chris Deluzio  
Member of Congress



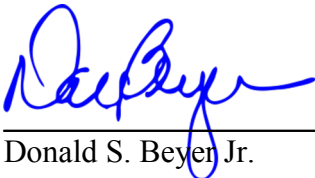
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Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



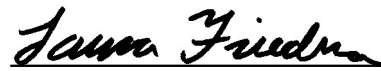
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Sarah McBride  
Member of Congress



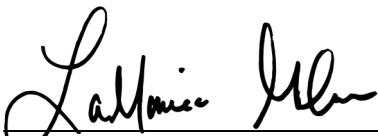
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Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



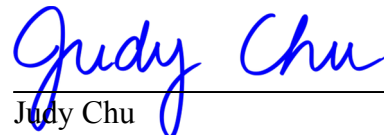
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Laura Friedman  
Member of Congress



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LaMonica McIver  
Member of Congress



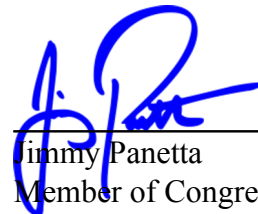
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Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



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Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



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Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress



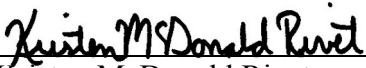
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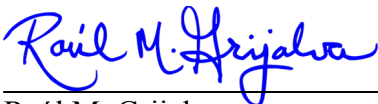
Valerie P. Foushee  
Member of Congress

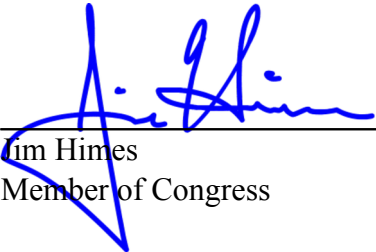



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Gabe Amo  
Member of Congress

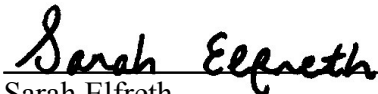
  
Kristen McDonald Rivet  
Member of Congress


  
Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress

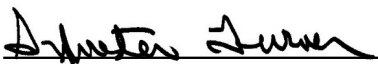
  
Jim Himes  
Member of Congress

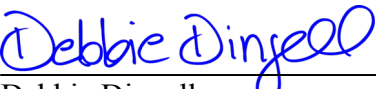
  
Jason Crow  
Member of Congress

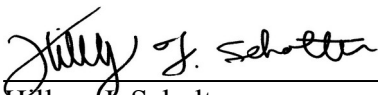
  
Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress


  
Sarah Elfreth  
Member of Congress


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


  
Sylvester Turner  
Member of Congress

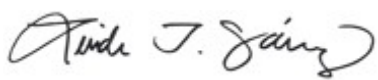
  
Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress

  
Hillary J. Scholten  
Member of Congress

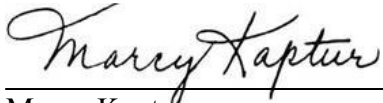
  
Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress

  
Julie Johnson  
Member of Congress

  
Mike Levin  
Member of Congress

  
Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress





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Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress



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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



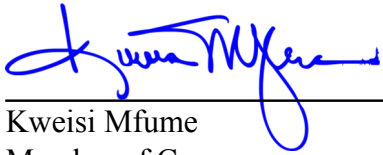
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Maxwell Alejandro Frost  
Member of Congress



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Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



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Kweisi Mfume  
Member of Congress



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Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress



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Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



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Al Green  
Member of Congress



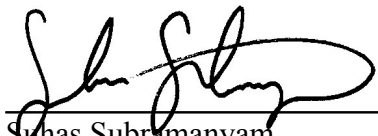
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Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



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Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



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Suhas Subramanyam  
Member of Congress



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Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



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Teresa Leger Fernandez  
Member of Congress



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Wesley Bell  
Member of Congress



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Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress



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Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



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John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



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Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



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Emilia Strong Sykes  
Member of Congress



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Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



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JM Tokuda  
Member of Congress



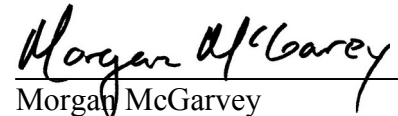
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Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



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Josh Harder  
Member of Congress



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Morgan McGarvey  
Member of Congress



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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



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Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



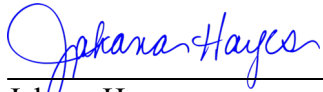
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Eric Sorensen  
Member of Congress



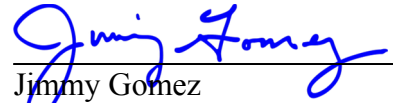
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Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



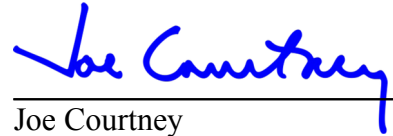
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Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



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Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



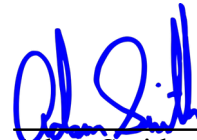
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Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



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Maxine Dexter  
Member of Congress



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Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



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Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



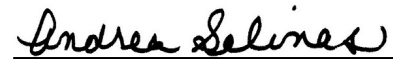
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Andre Carson  
Member of Congress



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Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



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Andrea Salinas  
Member of Congress



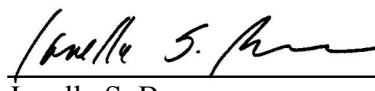
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Emily Randall  
Member of Congress



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Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



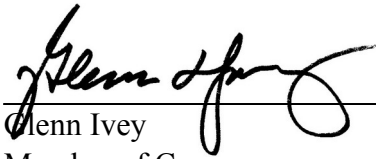
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Janelle S. Bynum  
Member of Congress

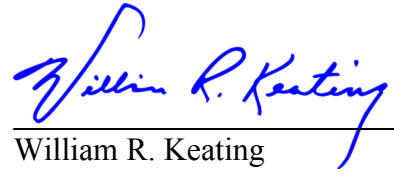


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Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



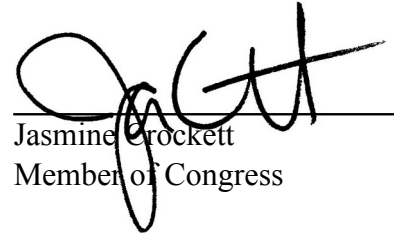
Glenn Ivey  
Member of Congress



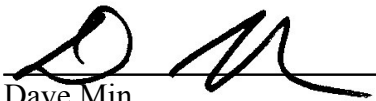
William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



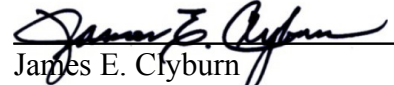
Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



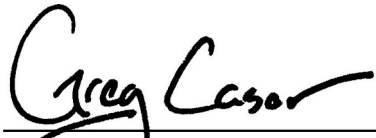
Jasmine Crockett  
Member of Congress



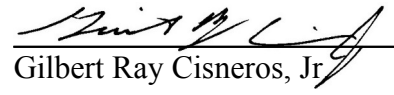
Dave Min  
Member of Congress



James E. Clyburn  
Member of Congress



Greg Casar  
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Kelly Morrison  
Member of Congress



Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress