

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

October 24, 2025

The Honorable Brooke Rollins  
Secretary U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Madam Secretary,

Right now, millions of Americans are struggling to afford food due to the Administration's ill-conceived trade war. Just this year, we've seen household staples like eggs, coffee, and ground beef hit record high prices.<sup>1</sup> Now more than ever, millions of families across the country depend upon the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to make ends meet. For far too many veterans, seniors, and children, SNAP benefits are the difference between having food or not. Now, due to the government shutdown, they are facing crippling levels of uncertainty about whether they will be able to afford food next month.

A potential lapse in benefits would be felt by Americans of all ages and affect every corner and congressional district in the country. As the largest food assistance program in the United States, SNAP serves 42 million people. That includes 16 million children, 8 million seniors, 4 million people with disabilities,<sup>2</sup> and 1.2 million veterans.<sup>3</sup>

That is why we were deeply concerned to see your comments suggesting that SNAP will run out of funding in two weeks and that no SNAP benefits will be issued in November.<sup>4</sup> USDA's shutdown plan acknowledges that "Congressional intent is evident that SNAP's operations should continue since the program has been provided with multi-year contingency funds..."<sup>5</sup> USDA still has significant funding available in SNAP's contingency reserve – which Congress provides precisely for this reason – that can be used to fund the bulk of November benefits.

We urge USDA to use these funds for November SNAP benefits and issue clear guidance to states on how to navigate benefit issuance. Additionally, while the contingency reserve will not cover November benefits in full, we urge USDA to use its statutory transfer authority or any other legal authority at its disposal to supplement these dollars and fully fund November benefits.

There are clear steps the administration can and must take immediately to ensure that millions of families across the country can put food on their table in November. Choosing not to ensure

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<sup>1</sup> NewsNation, "[Grocery prices are rising as beef, coffee hit record highs](#)," September 2025.

<sup>2</sup> USDA Food and Nutrition Service, "[Characteristics of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Households: Fiscal Year 2023](#)," April 2025.

<sup>3</sup> Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP), "[SNAP Helps 1.2 Million Veterans With Low Incomes, Including Thousands in Every State](#)," April 2025.

<sup>4</sup> New York Times, "[Food Stamp Benefits May Run Out in November, Officials Warn](#)," October 2025.

<sup>5</sup> USDA, "[U.S. Department of Agriculture Lapse of Funding Plan](#)," September 30, 2025.

SNAP benefits reach those in need this November would be a gross dereliction of your responsibilities to the American people. We appreciate your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,



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Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress  
Ranking Member,  
Subcommittee on Nutrition  
and Foreign Agriculture



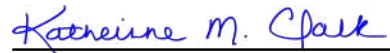
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Angie Craig  
Member of Congress  
Ranking Member, Committee  
on Agriculture



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Hakeem Jeffries  
Member of Congress



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Katherine M. Clark  
Member of Congress



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Pete Aguilar  
Member of Congress



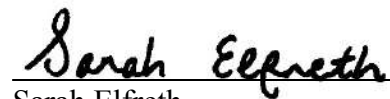
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Shontel M. Brown  
Member of Congress



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Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



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Sarah Elfreth  
Member of Congress



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Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress



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Eugene Simon Vindman  
Member of Congress



Maggie Goodlander  
Member of Congress



Josh Riley  
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas  
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Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán  
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Bennie G. Thompson  
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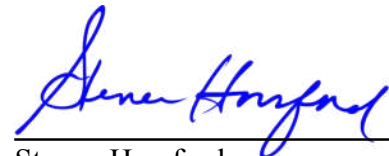
Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress



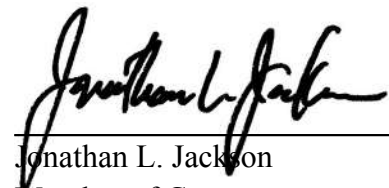
Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



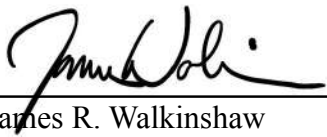
Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress



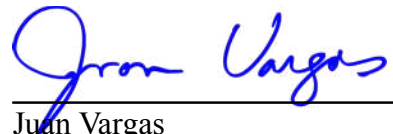
Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



James R. Walkinshaw  
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Juan Vargas  
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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



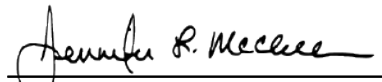
David Scott  
Member of Congress



Grace Meng  
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Greg Landsman  
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Jennifer L. McClellan  
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Veronica Escobar  
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Troy A. Carter, Sr.  
Member of Congress



Eric Sorensen  
Member of Congress



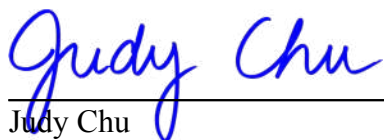
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Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



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



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Judy Chu  
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Jim Tokuda  
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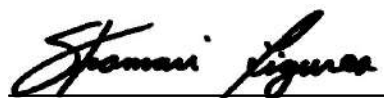
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George Latimer  
Member of Congress



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Gwen S. Moore  
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Shomari Figures  
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Nellie Pou  
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Josh Gottheimer  
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Patrick Ryan  
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Derek T. Tran  
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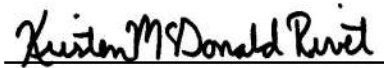
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Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress



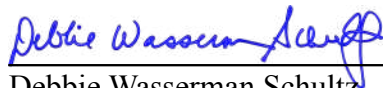
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Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



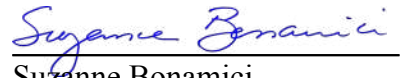
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Kristen McDonald Rivet  
Member of Congress



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Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



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Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



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Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress



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



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Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress



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Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



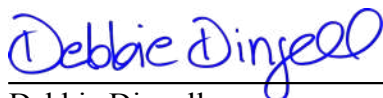
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SETH MOULTON  
Member of Congress



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Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress



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Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



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Ed Case  
Member of Congress

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Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress

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George Whitesides  
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Jim Himes  
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Mike Quigley  
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Susie Lee  
Member of Congress

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Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress

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John B. Larson  
Member of Congress

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Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress

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Lucy McBath  
Member of Congress

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Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress

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Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress

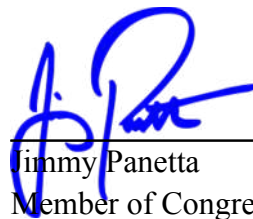
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Sylvia R. García  
Member of Congress



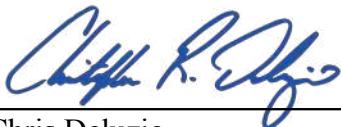
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Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



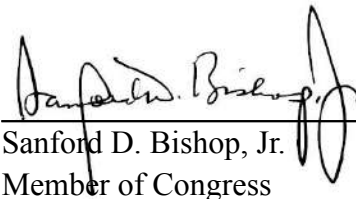
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Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress



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Chris Deluzio  
Member of Congress



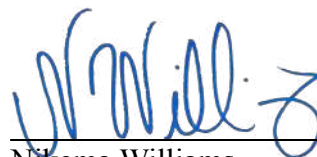
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Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress



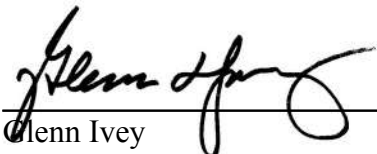
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Andrea Salinas  
Member of Congress



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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



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Glenn Ivey  
Member of Congress



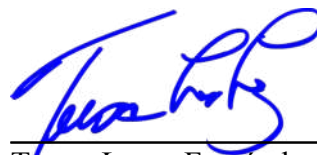
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Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



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Sydney Kamlager-Dove  
Member of Congress



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Teresa Leger Fernandez  
Member of Congress



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Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Emilia Strong Sykes  
Member of Congress





Gabe Amo  
Member of Congress



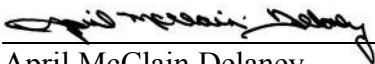
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Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



April McClain Delaney  
Member of Congress



Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



Laura Friedman  
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon  
Member of Congress



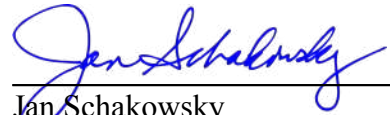
Lauren Underwood  
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



Morgan McGarvey  
Member of Congress




Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress




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Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



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Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress




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Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



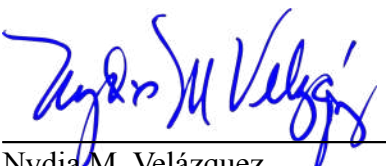
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Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress



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J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress




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Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress




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Yassamin Ansari  
Member of Congress



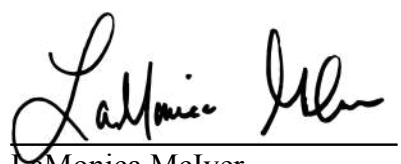
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Val Hoyle  
Member of Congress



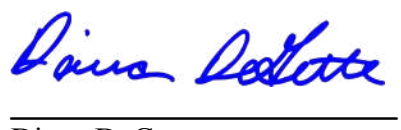
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Jasmine Crockett  
Member of Congress



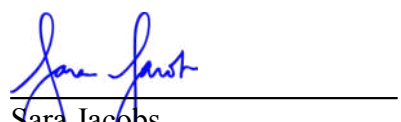
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LaMonica McIver  
Member of Congress



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Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



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Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



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Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



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Wesley Bell  
Member of Congress



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Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



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Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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MARK TAKANO  
Member of Congress



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Emily Randall  
Member of Congress



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Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress



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Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress



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Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



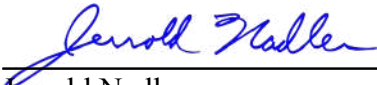
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Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress



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Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



Sarah McBride  
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



Maxine Dexter  
Member of Congress



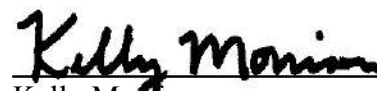
Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



Kelly Morrison  
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



Dave Min  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress




Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Gabe Vasquez  
Member of Congress



Al Green  
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



Valerie P. Foushee  
Member of Congress



Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress



Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



Robert J. Menendez  
Member of Congress



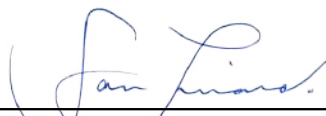
Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress



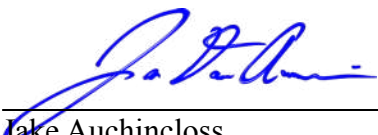
Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress



Sam T. Liccardo  
Member of Congress



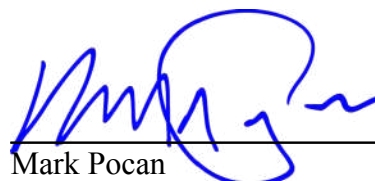
Jake Auchincloss  
Member of Congress



Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress



Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



John W. Mannion  
Member of Congress



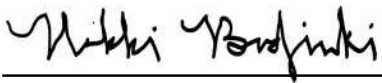
Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



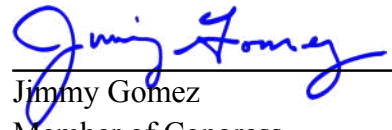
Janelle S. Bynum  
Member of Congress



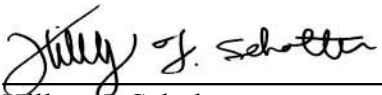
Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



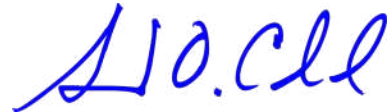
Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



Hillary J. Scholten  
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



Frank J. Mrvan  
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



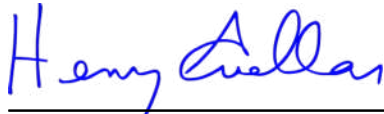
Cleo Fields  
Member of Congress



Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Joseph D. Morelle  
Member of Congress



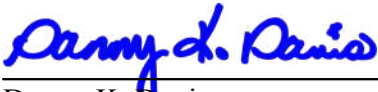
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Henry Cuellar  
Member of Congress



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Summer L. Lee  
Member of Congress



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Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



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Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



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Josh Harder  
Member of Congress



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Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



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Melanie Stansbury  
Member of Congress



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Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



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Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



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Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



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Maxwell Alejandro Frost  
Member of Congress



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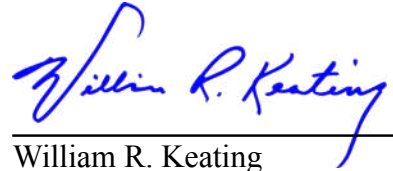
Johnny Oisewski, Jr.  
Member of Congress





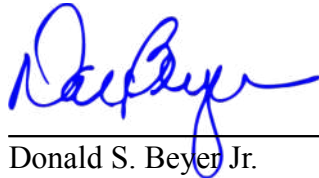
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Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



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William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



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Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



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Julie Johnson  
Member of Congress



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Luz M. Rivas  
Member of Congress



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Jared Moskowitz  
Member of Congress



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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



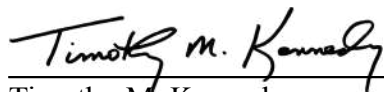
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Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



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Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



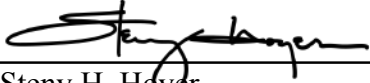
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Timothy M. Kennedy  
Member of Congress



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Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



Steny H. Hoyer  
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



Donald G. Davis  
Member of Congress



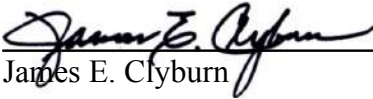
Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



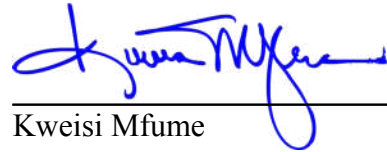
John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



James E. Clyburn



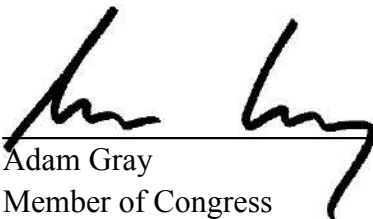
Kweisi Mfume  
Member of Congress



Pablo José Hernández  
Member of Congress



Thomas R. Suozzi  
Member of Congress



Adam Gray  
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam  
Member of Congress



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Nancy Pelosi  
Member of Congress



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Greg Casar  
Member of Congress



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Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress



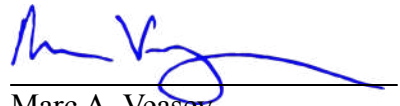
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Laura A. Gillen  
Member of Congress



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Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



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Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



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Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress



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Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress



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Stacey E. Plaskett  
Member of Congress



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Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



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Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress

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André Carson  
Member of Congress

CC: Director Russell Vought, Office of Management and Budget