

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 15, 2016

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chair
Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
H-305
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and
Related Programs, Committee on Appropriations
HT2
The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Pete Visclosky
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Defense
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building,
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nita M. Lowey
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and
Related Programs, Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building,
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Frelinghuysen, Ranking Member Visclosky, Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member Lowey:

As you begin working on the fiscal year 2017 Defense and State and Foreign Operations appropriations bills, we write to express our support for robust funding for Ukraine.

Our support for Ukraine stems from our shared values for sovereignty, human rights, and rule of law. By helping Ukraine succeed as a democratic, independent, and prosperous nation, we also act in our national interest by helping to ensure the security of our central and eastern European allies in a changing region.

Ukraine is at a critical juncture in its reform efforts since the events of Maidan over two years ago. Since then, the government of Ukraine has been implementing necessary reforms to stabilize its economy and making changes towards greater transparency and rule of law.

However, the situation in Ukraine remains fragile. Robust American support remains critical to its independence and sovereignty. In spite of the Minsk Agreements calling for a ceasefire, fighting on the eastern front, led by Russia-controlled separatists, has intensified. The humanitarian situation on the eastern front has worsened in recent months, and reforming deeply-entrenched problems such as corruption requires consistent support.

These challenges need comprehensive and bipartisan support that would allow Ukraine to stabilize its border, carry on with reform efforts, and help its economy grow. United States should continue to stand shoulder to shoulder with the Ukrainian people and provide robust funding to help a strategic ally.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

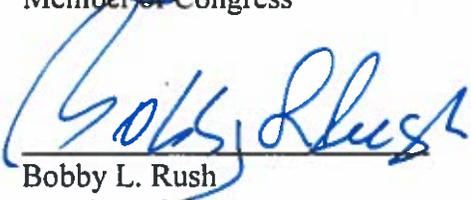
Sincerely,



Sander Levin
Member of Congress



Michael G. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



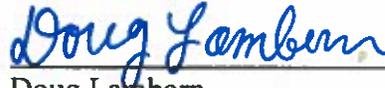
Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



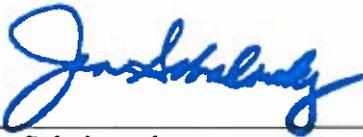
Corrine Brown
Member of Congress



Daniel Lipinski
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



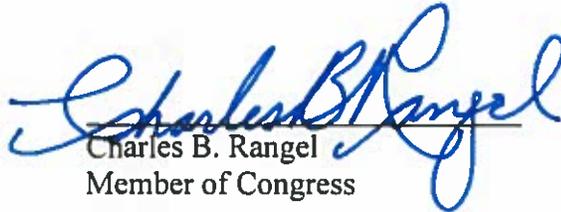
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



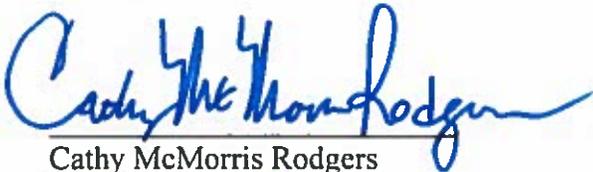
Robert J. Dold
Member of Congress



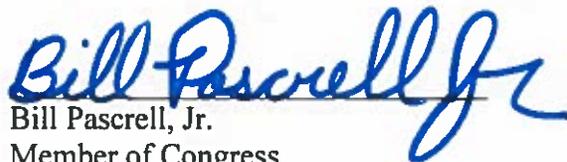
Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress



Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



Ryan A. Costello
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Conolly
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress

Tim Murphy

Tim Murphy
Member of Congress


Dave Reichert
Member of Congress