

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harold (Hal) Rogers
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita M. Lowey
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jack Kingston
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Human Services, Education and Related
Agencies
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Human Services, Education and Related
Agencies
2413 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

April 19, 2013

Dear Chairman Rogers, Ranking Member Lowey, Chairman Kingston and Ranking Member DeLauro,

As you work on the Fiscal Year 2014 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies, we strongly urge you to include the President's request of \$9.6 billion for the Head Start program.

We understand the serious constraints on the federal budget, however funding for a high performing federal program like Head Start is a critical investment in our children's future and the prosperity of our country. Requirements from the 2007 reauthorization significantly increased the number of teachers with BA or advanced degrees from 38% to 62%. Additionally, all programs are now required to use scientifically-valid curricula and programs that violate even one of 2,200 standards must compete to keep their funding. However, in order to ensure Head Start's continued success with new children who are entering the program, we must commit to providing adequate funding for Head Start through the annual budget and appropriations process.

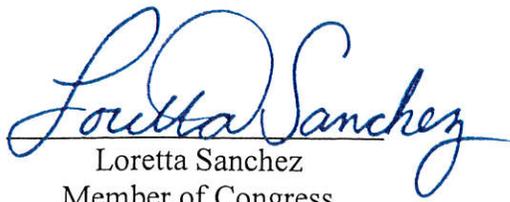
The purpose of Head Start is to improve the school readiness of low-income children by enhancing their cognitive, social, and emotional development in a learning environment that supports children's growth in language, literacy, mathematics, science, social and emotional functioning, creative arts, and physical skills. Year after year, Head Start programs around the nation have served this purpose and transformed the lives of children and their families in dramatic ways. Enrollment in Head Start can break the cycle of poverty that affects too many American families. Children who are in the program are better prepared to learn and have higher self-esteem and more advanced social behavior when they enter school. They also score higher

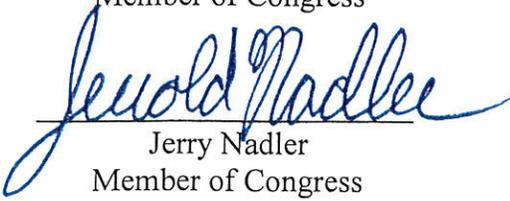
on school readiness measures such as verbal achievement, perceptual reasoning, and social competence than children who did not attend preschool.

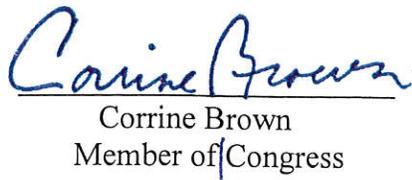
The most efficient way to reduce the achievement gap between certain affluent and disadvantaged students in the 12th grade is to reduce the achievement gaps that exist in the 1st grade. Head Start also creates an economic benefit for the country; for every dollar spent on Head Start, the country realizes almost nine dollars in benefits through participants' increased earnings, decreased welfare dependence, and other factors. If we invested \$9.6 billion in our FY2014 budget, that would translate into a minimum of \$480 billion returned to society by the time these children reach adulthood.

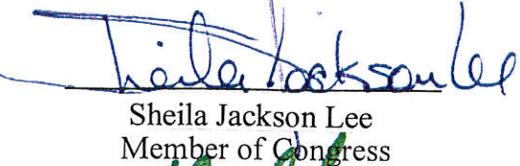
We respectfully request that the Fiscal Year 2014 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee mark include Head Start program funding at \$9.6 billion. Head Start is an investment in our future that merits adequate funding so the program can continue to provide much needed education and health services to America's most vulnerable children.

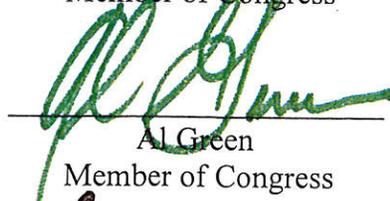
Sincerely,

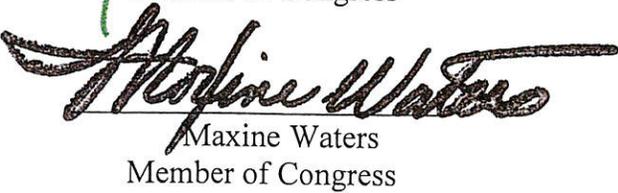

Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress

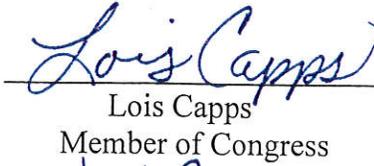

Jerry Nadler
Member of Congress

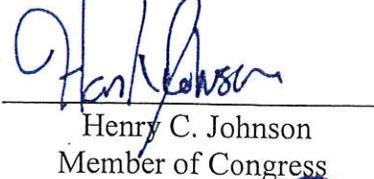

Corrine Brown
Member of Congress

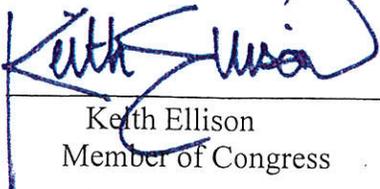

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress

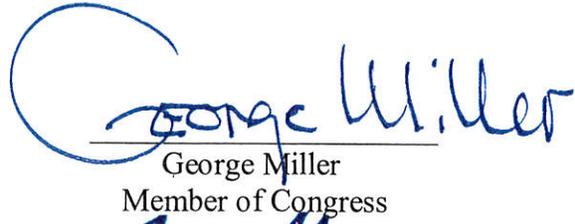

Al Green
Member of Congress

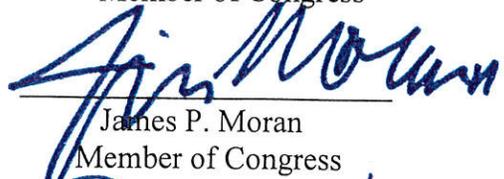

Maxine Waters
Member of Congress

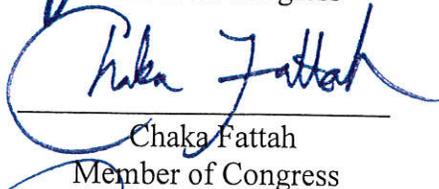

Lois Capps
Member of Congress

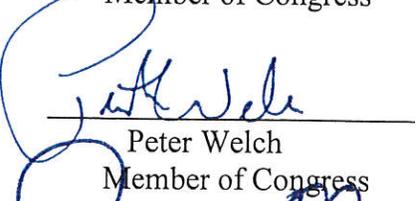

Henry C. Johnson
Member of Congress


Keith Ellison
Member of Congress


George Miller
Member of Congress

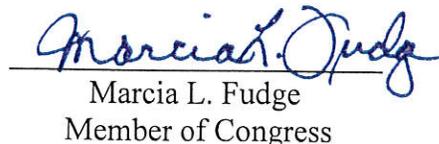

James P. Moran
Member of Congress


Chaka Fattah
Member of Congress

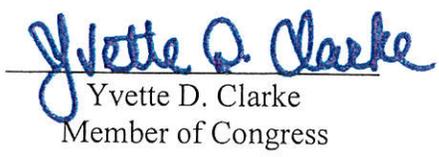

Peter Welch
Member of Congress

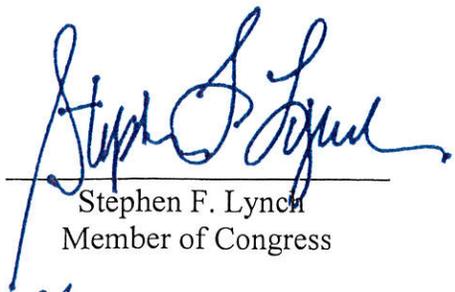

John D. Dingell
Member of Congress


Albio Sires
Member of Congress


Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress


Carolyn McCarthy
Member of Congress

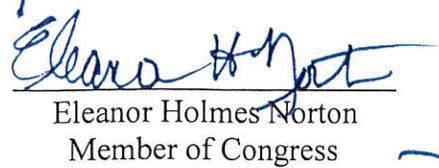

Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



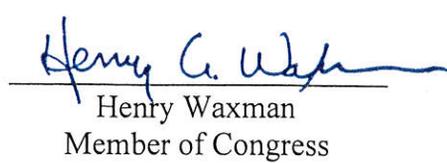
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



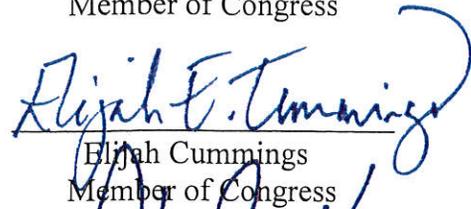
Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress



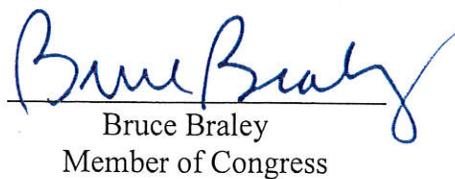
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



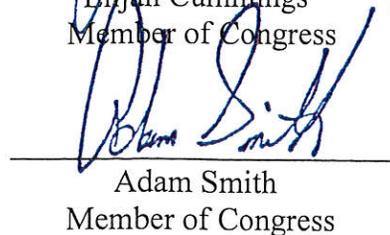
Henry Waxman
Member of Congress



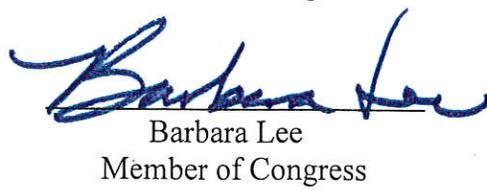
Elijah Cummings
Member of Congress



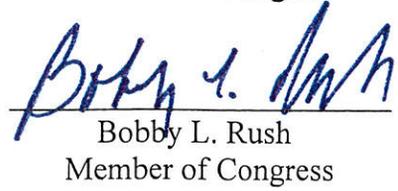
Bruce Braley
Member of Congress



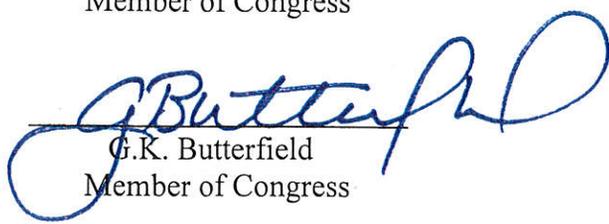
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



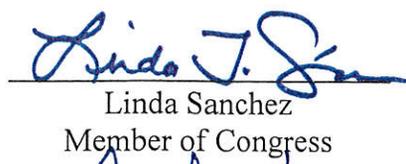
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



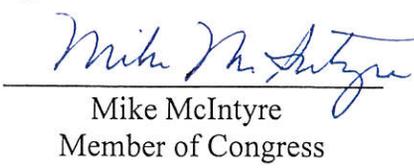
Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



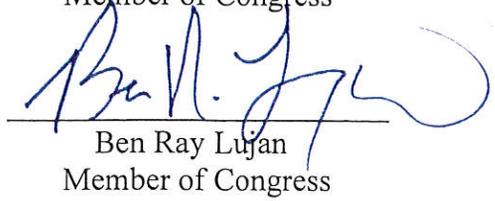
G.K. Butterfield
Member of Congress



Linda Sanchez
Member of Congress



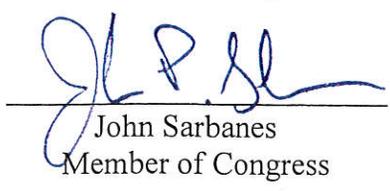
Mike McIntyre
Member of Congress



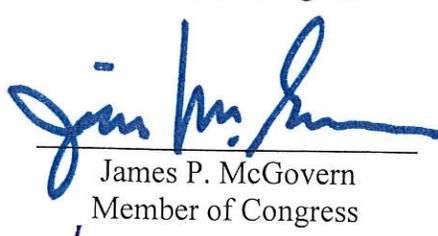
Ben Ray Lujan
Member of Congress



Louise Slaughter
Member of Congress



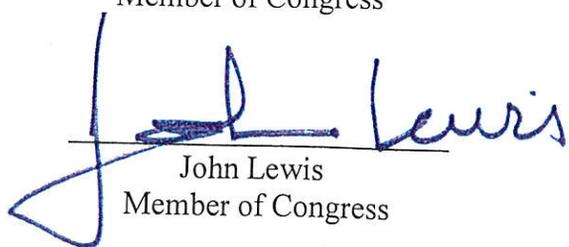
John Sarbanes
Member of Congress



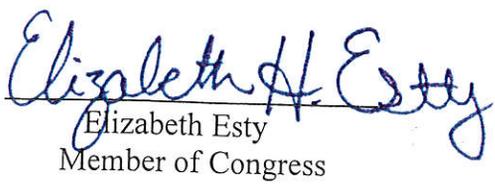
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Daniel Kildee
Member of Congress



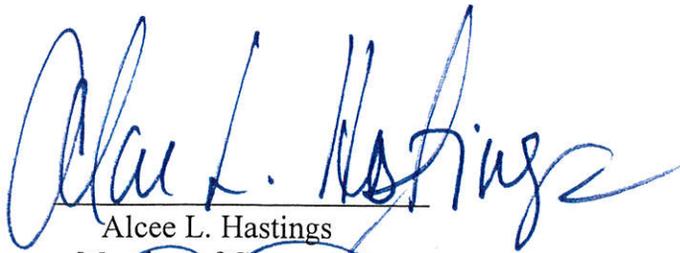
John Lewis
Member of Congress



Elizabeth Esty
Member of Congress



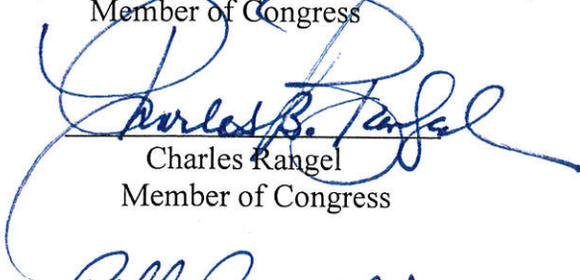
Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



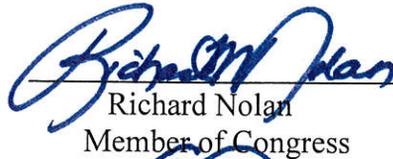
Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



John C. Conyers
Member of Congress



Charles Rangel
Member of Congress



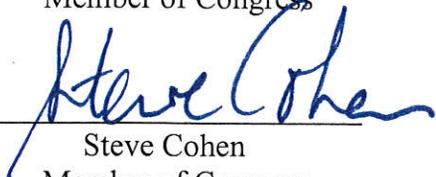
Richard Nolan
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell Jr.
Member of Congress



André Carson
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Steve Israel
Member of Congress



Dutch Ruppersberger
Member of Congress



Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress



Tim Walz
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



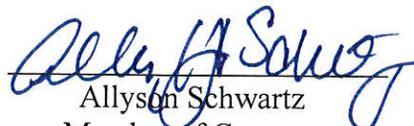
Rush Holt
Member of Congress



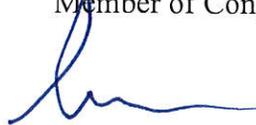
Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Xavier Becerra
Member of Congress



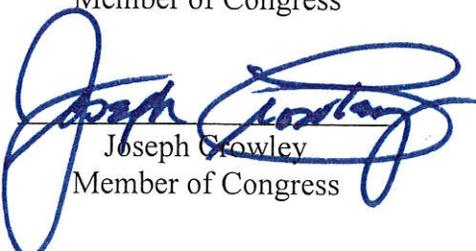
Allyson Schwartz
Member of Congress



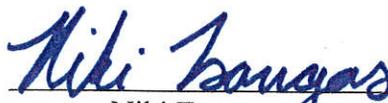
Ami Bera
Member of Congress



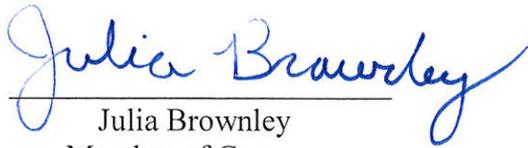
Matthew Cartwright
Member of Congress



Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress



Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



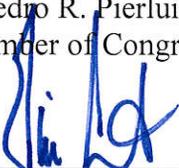
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Robert "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



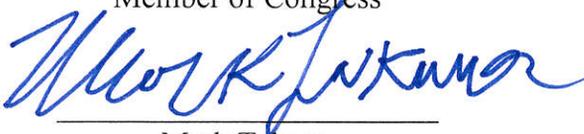
Pedro R. Pierluisi
Member of Congress



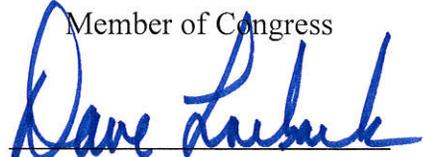
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



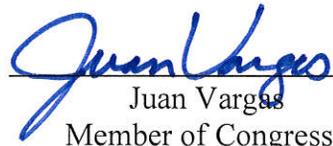
Raul Ruiz
Member of Congress



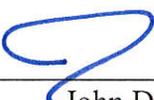
Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



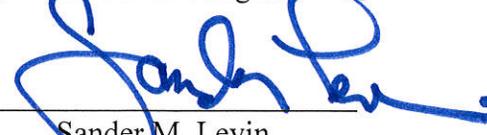
John Delaney
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



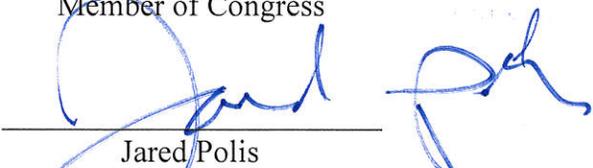
Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



Sander M. Levin
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



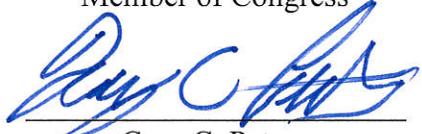
Jared Polis
Member of Congress



Tony Cardenas
Member of Congress



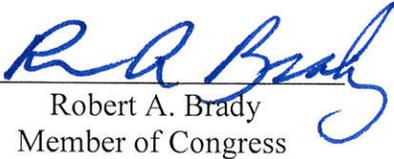
Carol Shea-Porter
Member of Congress



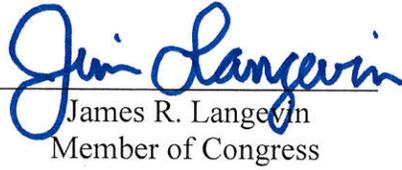
Gary C. Peters
Member of Congress

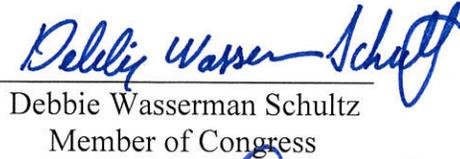


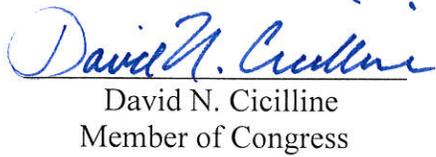
Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress

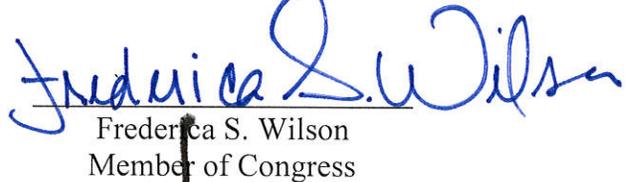

Robert A. Brady
Member of Congress

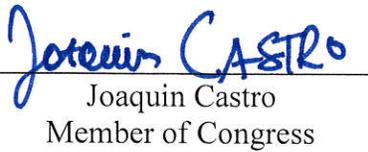

Donald Payne Jr.
Member of Congress

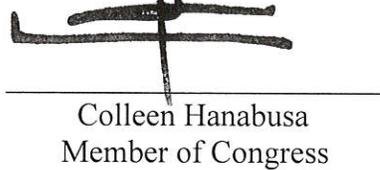

James R. Langevin
Member of Congress

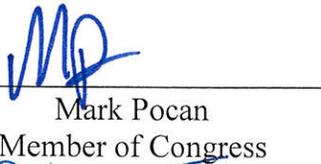

Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress

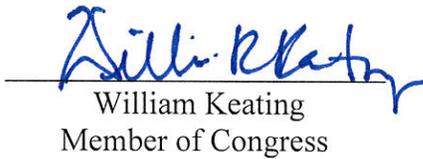

David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress


Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress

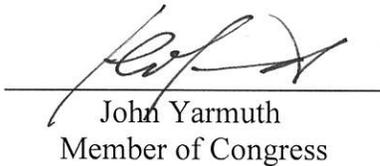

Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress

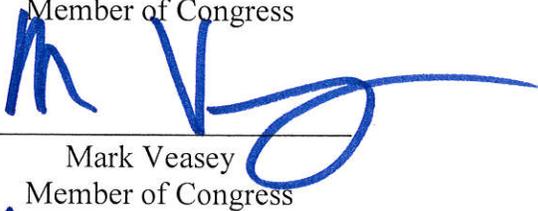

Colleen Hanabusa
Member of Congress


Mark Pocan
Member of Congress

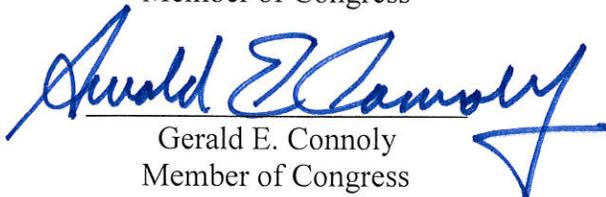

William Keating
Member of Congress

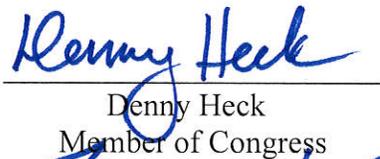

Dina Titus
Member of Congress


John Yarmuth
Member of Congress

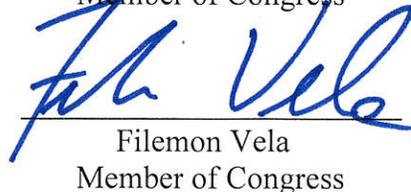

Mark Veasey
Member of Congress


Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
Member of Congress


Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress

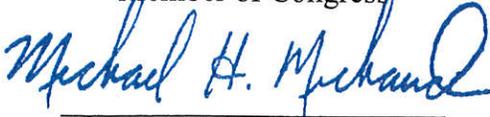

Denny Heck
Member of Congress


Pete Gallego
Member of Congress

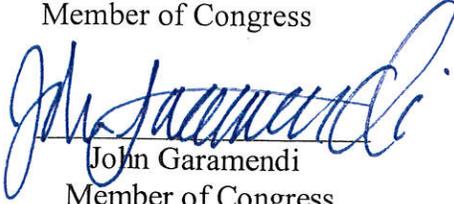

Filemon Vela
Member of Congress



Daniel Lipinski
Member of Congress



Mike Michaud
Member of Congress



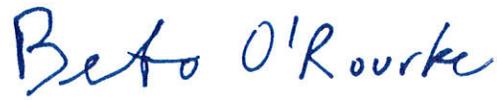
John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Grace Meng
Member of Congress



Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



Beto O'Rourke
Member of Congress



Theodore E. Deutch
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



Nick Rahall
Member of Congress