

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 11, 2026

David Venturella
Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Director
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement
Department of Homeland Security
500 12th St SW
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Acting Director Venturella,

We write to express our concern with the changes outlined under the recent internal policy memorandum, “Restoring Order and Integrity to Congressional Visits to Detention Facilities,” which limits meetings between members of Congress and individuals in detention.

The memorandum outlines that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has “provided a historic level of access to its facilities,” with over 350 congressional visits coordinated since the beginning of the Trump Administration in January 2025. The need for historic levels of access to facilities is a direct product of historic levels of reports regarding the mistreatment of detainees, deaths in custody, inadequate conditions within facilities, and limited or inconsistent resources for detainees.

It is clear Congress must conduct constant oversight. The right to inspect these detention facilities without advance notice was recently reaffirmed in *Neguse et al. v. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement et al.* Yet, this Administration has enabled a revolving door of arbitrary policies, directives, and guidance on member access to facilities or on communication with detainees designed to hinder any productive oversight.

Requiring two business days of advance notice and valid proof of a detainee’s consent to the meeting raises serious concerns in three main ways.

1. The new policy assumes that detainees have timely access not only to obtaining an ICE Form 60-001 or similar form, but also to returning it to the appropriate entity within two business days. We have witnessed firsthand how difficult it can be for detainees to access this form because it was unavailable at the law library or because facility staff did not know how to help detainees access the form.
2. The new policy in effect severely reduces the ability for members of Congress to conduct unannounced oversight visits by requiring members to announce a visit if seeking to meet with a detainee(s). Again, this contradicts the recent court ruling affirming the right for members of Congress to conduct oversight visits without advance notice.
3. The new policy limits the ability for members of Congress to speak broadly with detainees, particularly if members wanted to communicate with vulnerable communities such as elderly individuals or women. ICE’s previous policy allowed detainees to use a

sign-up sheet to meet with representatives, allowing members of Congress to hear directly from individuals who were interested in sharing their experience.

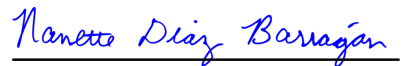
The Trump Administration has shut down or dramatically reduced staffing at the Office of the Immigration Detention Ombudsman and the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) – both critical components responsible for conducting independent and impartial investigations. For Fiscal Year 2027, the President requested additional cuts to funding the Department’s Office of the Inspector General. These actions, coupled with the constant changes to policies surrounding member access to facilities, reveal a clear attack on the levers that ensure government transparency at every level.

We call on you to reverse the new policy restricting access for members of Congress to speak with detainees and implement an updated policy that grants detainees the option to speak with members to share their experiences, particularly during unannounced visits.

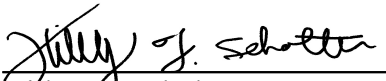
Sincerely,



Mike Levin
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragan
Member of Congress



Hillary J. Scholten
Member of Congress



Dave Min
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress




Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



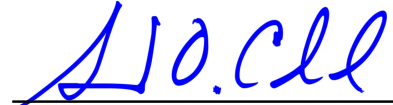
Maxine Dexter, M.D.
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



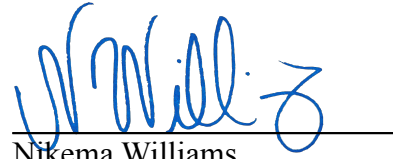
Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



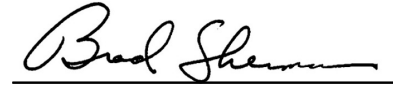
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



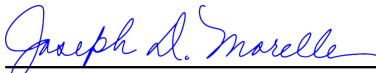
Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



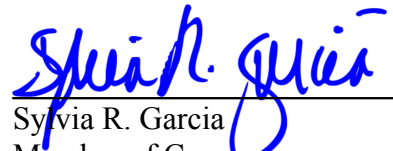
Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



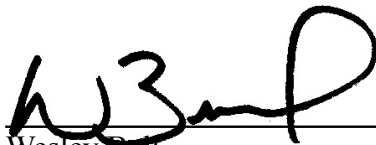
Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



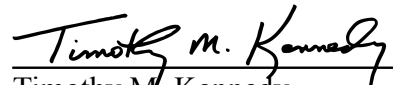
Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Wesley Bell
Member of Congress




Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress





Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress




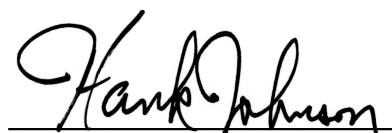
Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress

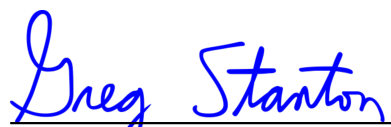

Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



Adelita S. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress

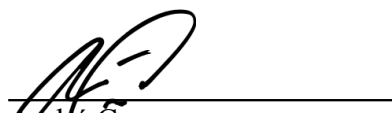

Lori Trahan
Member of Congress

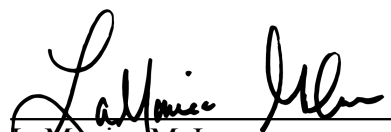

Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress

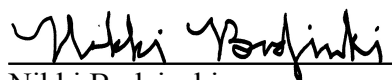

Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress

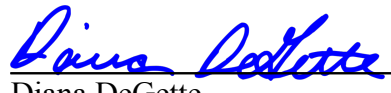

André Carson
Member of Congress


LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress


Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress


Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress


Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress


Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



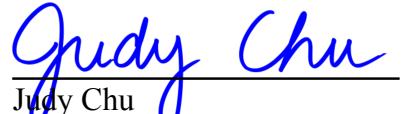
Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



Susie Lee
Member of Congress



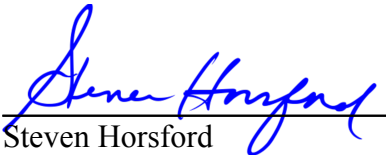
Laura Friedman
Member of Congress



J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



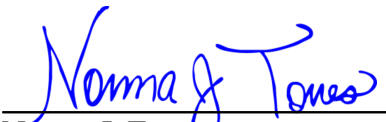
Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress



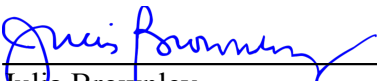
Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



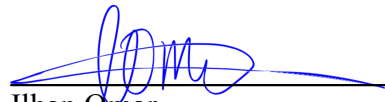
Lauren Underwood
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



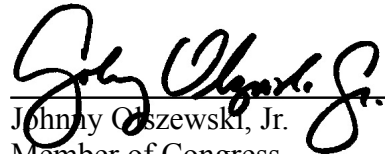
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



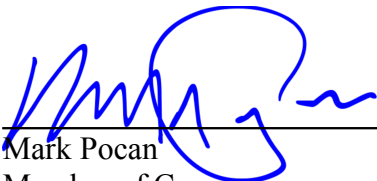
Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



MARK TAKANO
Member of Congress



Johnny Oszewski, Jr.
Member of Congress



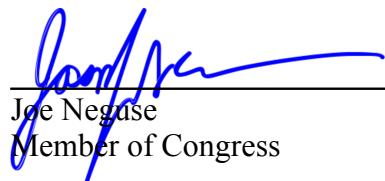
Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Teresa Leger Fernandez
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



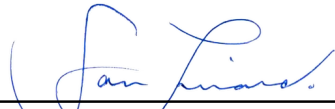
Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress




Luz M. Rivas
Member of Congress



Sam T. Liccardo
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



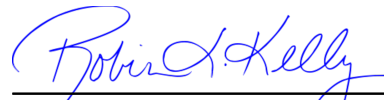
Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress




Jason Crow
Member of Congress



Kelly Morrison
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Yasamin Ansari
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



Robert J. Menendez
Member of Congress