

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 23, 2015

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart
Chairman
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing and Urban Development,
and Related Agencies
2358-A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Price
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation
Housing and Urban Development,
and Related Agencies
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Diaz-Balart and Ranking Member Price:

As the subcommittee develops its FY2016 appropriations bill, we respectfully urge you to prioritize commitment for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, one of the most effective federal programs for growing local economies and for providing a lifeline to families and communities, with proven results. **We request the subcommittee provide at least \$3.3 billion in formula funding for CDBG.**

Since FY 2005, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has collected accomplishment data for the CDBG program. The data highlight the program's flexibility to design and implement strategies tailored to meet local needs and priorities. It has provided funds in every state, including housing investments, public infrastructure improvements, and economic development, while also providing public services, including services for seniors, youth, the disabled, and employment training.

Despite being a key tool for aiding our communities, the CDBG program, like many programs, has taken a share of deep cuts in recent years, falling substantially—by nearly \$1 billion since FY2010. While the program helps more than 1,200 cities, counties, states, and rural areas meet the needs of low- and moderate-income people and communities, funding cuts have severely weakened the ability of grantees to revitalize their communities and respond to local need. We share your commitment to the most effective use of taxpayer dollars, and believe that these grants have proven highly effective. Based on the data that grantees have reported to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development over the past nine years (FY2005 – FY2014), CDBG has:

- Helped over 1.2 million low- and moderate-income persons through single-family, owner-occupied rehabilitation, homeownership assistance, energy-efficient improvements, and lead-based abatement, among other activities;
- Created or retained 353,237 jobs for low- and moderate-income people through a variety of economic development activities;
- Provided direct assistance to 220,695 businesses since FY07;

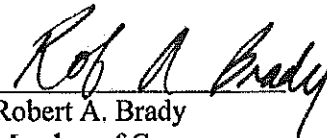
- Benefited nearly 37 million low- and moderate-income persons through public improvements including senior centers, child care centers, and centers for people with disabilities;
- Benefited over 114 million low- and moderate-income persons through public services such as employment training, meals and other services to the elderly, services for abused and neglected children, assistance to local food banks, and other services.

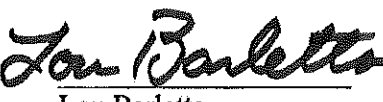
Additionally, every \$1.00 of CDBG leverages an additional \$4.07 in non-CDBG funding.

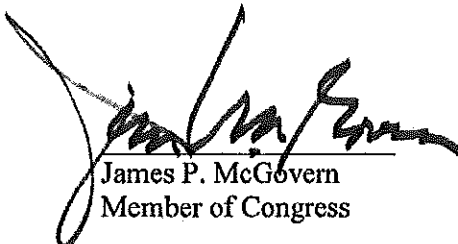
CDBG makes its way into the local economy through an extensive network of local organizations and remains a lifeline for families and communities. It is one federal program that touches the lives of nearly every American in some fashion. Over 7,200 communities have access to the funds and rely on the program to enhance their life and community. The pressing need in the current economy for these funds remains critical.

While we understand the difficult fiscal decisions we must make in Washington, we appreciate your consideration of this important request and strongly urge you to support at least \$3.3 billion for the CDBG program in FY16 to help grow local economies.

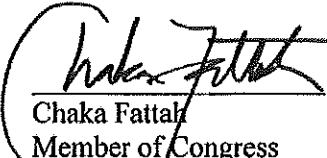
Sincerely,



 Robert A. Brady
 Member of Congress

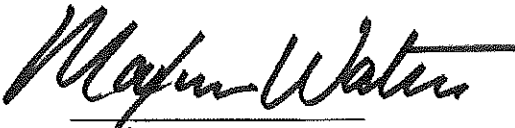

 Lou Barletta
 Member of Congress


 James P. McGovern
 Member of Congress


 Peter T. King
 Member of Congress


 Chaka Fattah
 Member of Congress


 Chris Gibson
 Member of Congress


 Makine Waters
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Rosa L. DeLauro
Rosa L. DeLauro
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Brian Higgins
Brian Higgins
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Jim Langevin
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Richard E. Neal
Richard E. Neal
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Ron Kind
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Peter Welch
Peter Welch
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Louise M. Slaughter
Louise M. Slaughter
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Stephen Lynch
Stephen Lynch
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Niki Tsongas
Niki Tsongas
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Mark Takai
Mark Takai
Member of Congress

David Cicilline
David Cicilline
Member of Congress

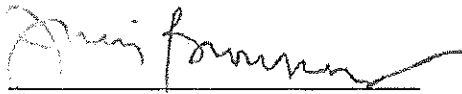
Keith Ellison
Keith Ellison
Member of Congress

Alcee Hastings
Alcee Hastings
Member of Congress

Juan Vargas
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress

Lois Frankel
Lois Frankel
Member of Congress

Anna Eshoo
Anna Eshoo
Member of Congress



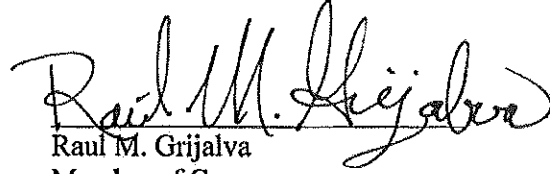
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



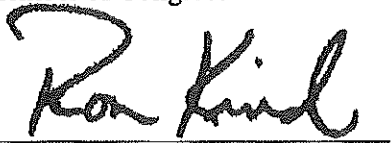
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



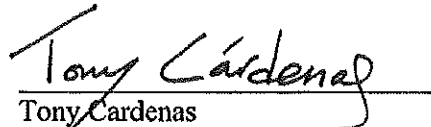
John Yarmuth
Member of Congress



Raul M. Grijalva
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Ron Kind
Member of Congress



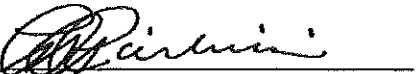
Tony Cardenas
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Mark Takano
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John Garamendi
Member of Congress



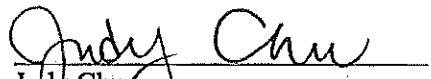
Pedro Pierluisi
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Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



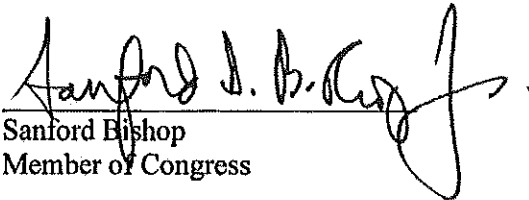
Filemon Vela
Member of Congress



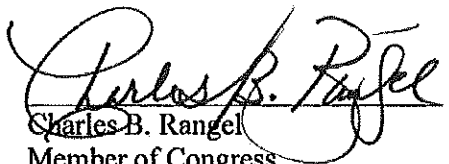
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Marc Veasey
Member of Congress



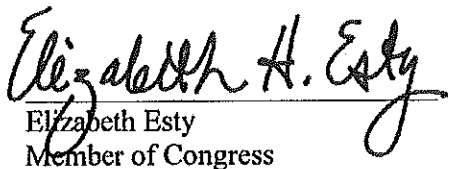
Sanford Bishop
Member of Congress

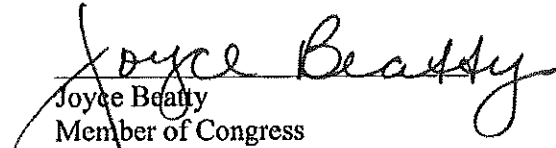


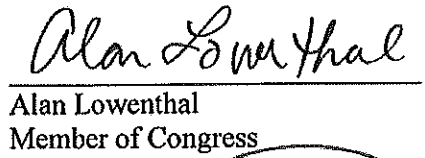
Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress

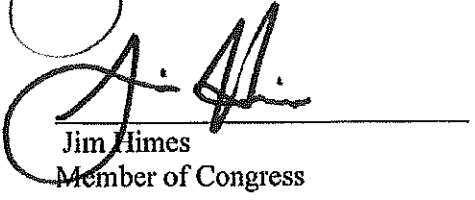


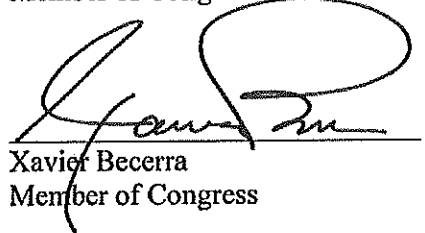
Ted Deutch
Member of Congress

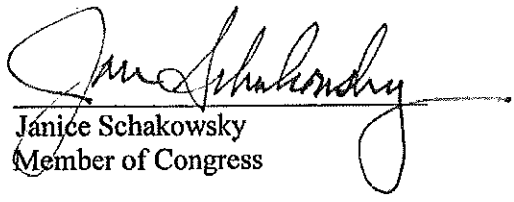

Elizabeth Esty
Member of Congress

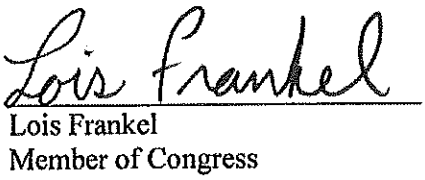

Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress

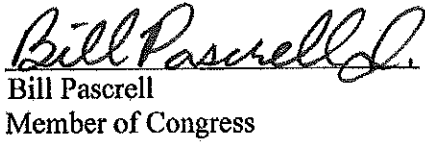

Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress

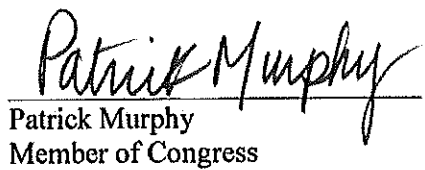

Jim Himes
Member of Congress

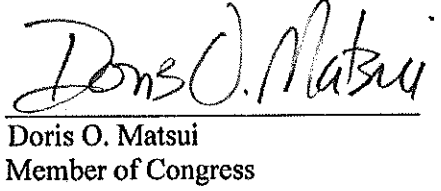

Xavier Becerra
Member of Congress

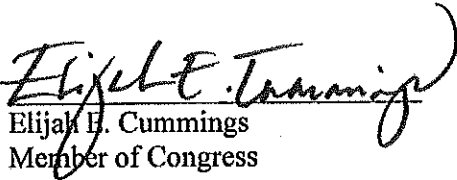

Janice Schakowsky
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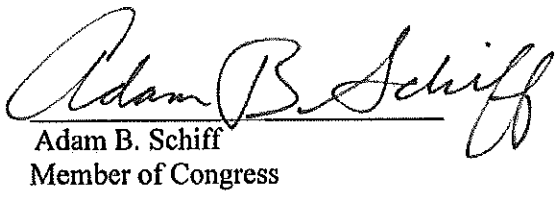

Lois Frankel
Member of Congress

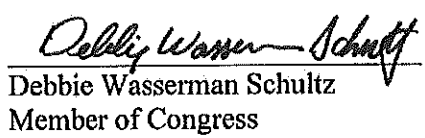

Bill Pascrell
Member of Congress

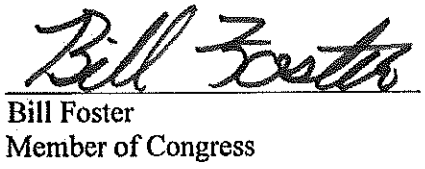

Patrick Murphy
Member of Congress

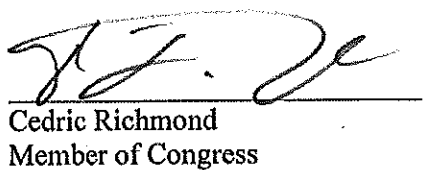

Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress

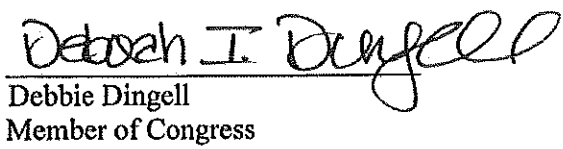

Elijah E. Cummings
Member of Congress

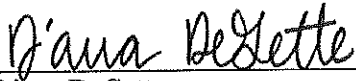

Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress


Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress

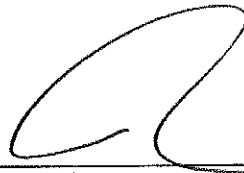

Bill Foster
Member of Congress


Cedric Richmond
Member of Congress


Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



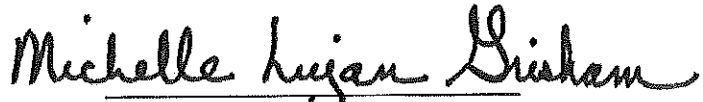
Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



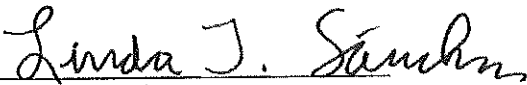
John Delaney
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress



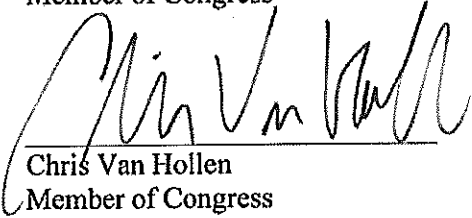
Michelle Lujan Grisham
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Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



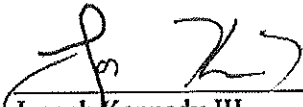
Karen Bass
Member of Congress



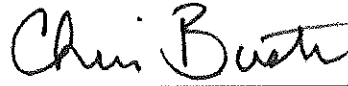
Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



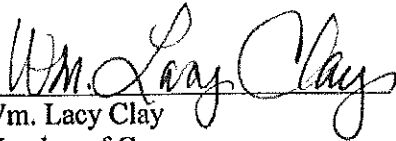
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



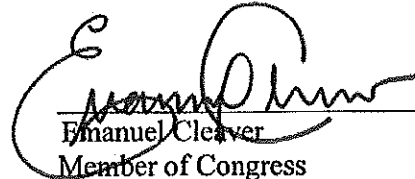
Joseph Kennedy III
Member of Congress



Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver
Member of Congress



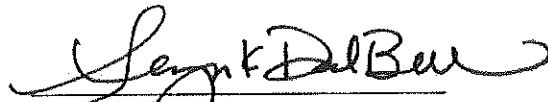
David Loebsack
Member of Congress



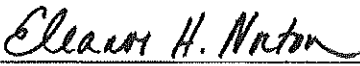
Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

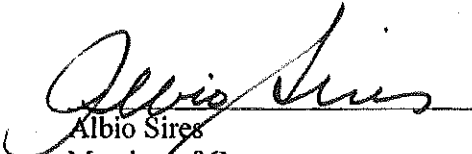


Tammy Duckworth
Member of Congress

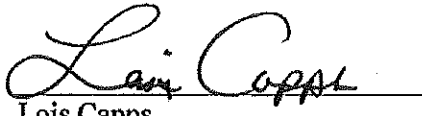


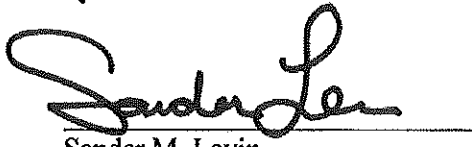
Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress

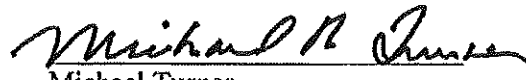

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

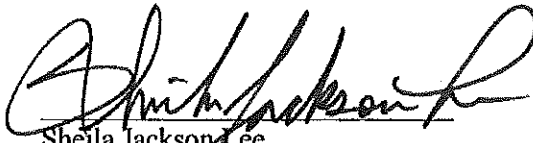

Albio Sires
Member of Congress

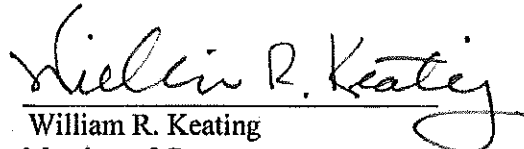

Keith Ellison
Member of Congress

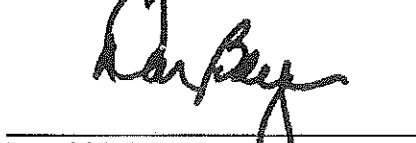

Lois Capps
Member of Congress


Sander M. Levin
Member of Congress


Michael Turner
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
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Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress

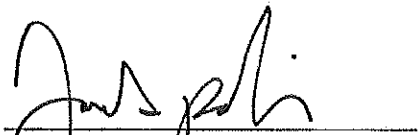

Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz
Member of Congress



Timothy J. Walz
Member of Congress

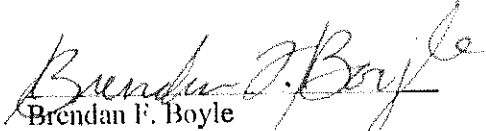

Ami Bera
Member of Congress


Jared Polis
Member of Congress

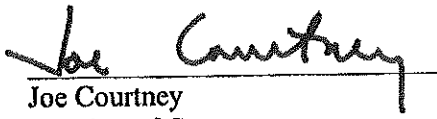

Scott Peters
Member of Congress


Ron Kind
Member of Congress

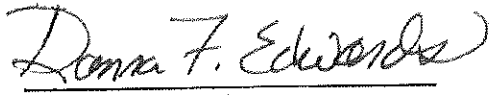

Kyrsten Sinema
Member of Congress

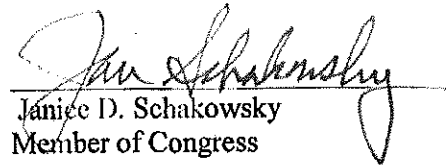

Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress

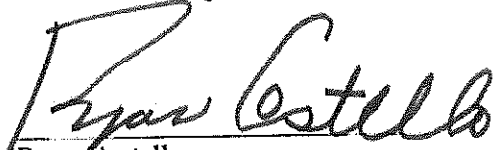

Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

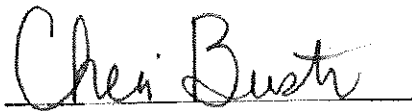

Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress



Janice D. Schakowsky
Member of Congress

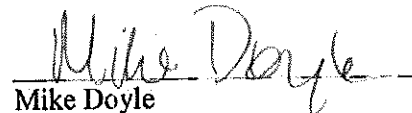

Ryan Costello
Member of Congress

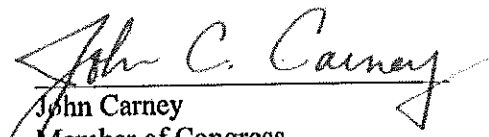

Alma S. Adams
Member of Congress



Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

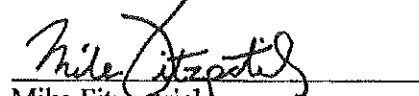

John Carney
Member of Congress



Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress


Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

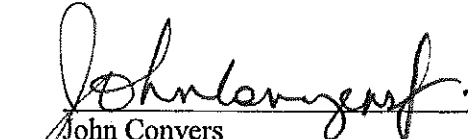

Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress

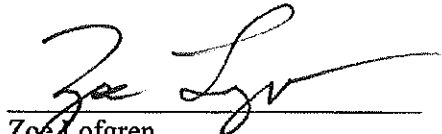

Mike Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress

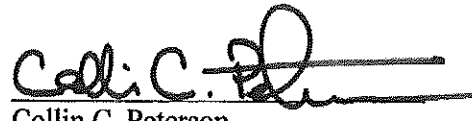

Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

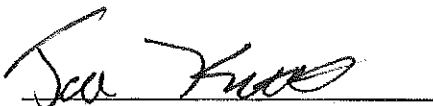

Ann Kirkpatrick
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress

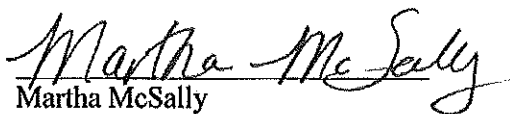

John Conyers
Member of Congress


Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Collin C. Peterson
Member of Congress



John Katko
Member of Congress

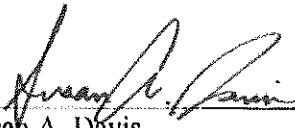

Gene Green
Member of Congress

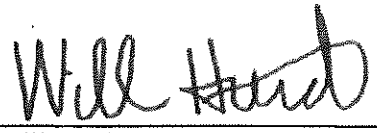

Martha McSally
Member of Congress

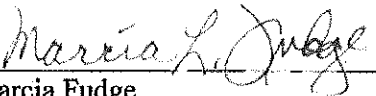

John Larson
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress

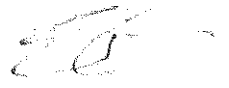

Dan Kildee
Member of Congress

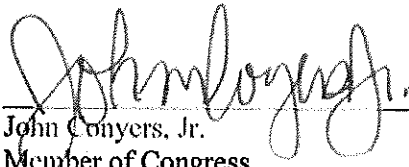

Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress

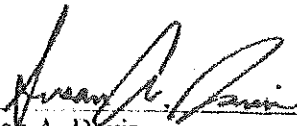

Will Hurd
Member of Congress

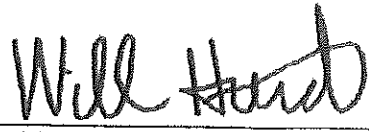

Marcia Fudge
Member of Congress

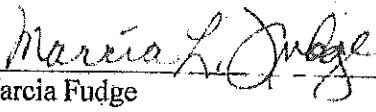

Ted Lieu
Member of Congress



Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress

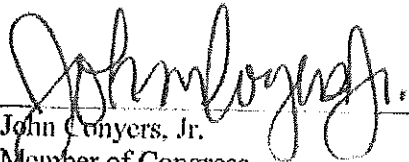

Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress


Will Hurd
Member of Congress

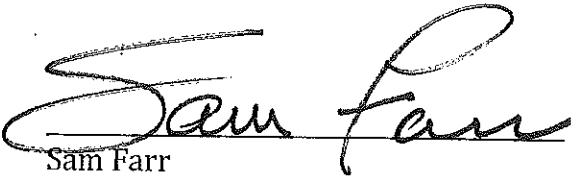

Marcia Fudge
Member of Congress



Ted Lieu
Member of Congress



Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress


John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress


Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress


Sam Farr
Member of Congress


Mark Takai
Member of Congress


Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress