

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 19, 2017

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Frelinghuysen and Ranking Member Lowey:

As the House works to craft an end of year spending bill for fiscal year 2018, we write to express our strong support for increasing funding for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). In any forthcoming appropriations legislation for FY 2018, we urge you to work with your Senate colleagues to ensure NIH receives a funding level of no less than \$36 billion, equal to the level approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee. The amount reflects the rising costs of medical research and would maintain America's role as a global leader in biomedical research and groundbreaking medical discoveries.

A bipartisan majority of the 115th Congress has already demonstrated its clear support for continuing investments in NIH. This funding helps push the boundaries of scientific knowledge, advance promising research and offer hope to millions of Americans suffering from heartbreaking diseases. Federal funding for this life-saving research is also a key economic driver for our nation, supporting more than 400,000 jobs and generating over \$60 billion in new economic activity. It delivers a significant return on our investment today and for generations to come.

Congress has increased NIH funding by \$2 billion in each of the last two years and now is not the time to slow down. If we are serious about breaking new ground in our understanding of complex and life-threatening conditions, then it is absolutely essential we increase funding for NIH. Simply put, we cannot hope to accelerate the development of new cures, therapies and vaccines without additional resources for research. Particularly given the significant investments in NIH approved earlier this year by the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, we feel strongly that now is the time to recommit to America's long-term health and prosperity.

While we understand the difficult fiscal challenges you face, we hope you will again see the difference between an investment and a cost. NIH is without question an investment in not just medical innovation and economic growth but our nation's future. We urge you to prioritize the important role NIH plays by funding the agency at a funding level of no less than \$36 billion for FY 2018. Thank you for your consideration of this request, which will make a meaningful difference in the lives of millions of Americans.

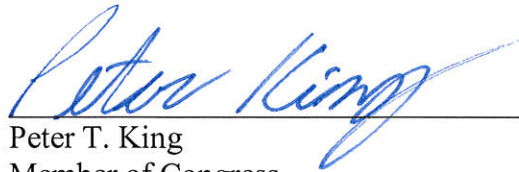
Sincerely,



Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



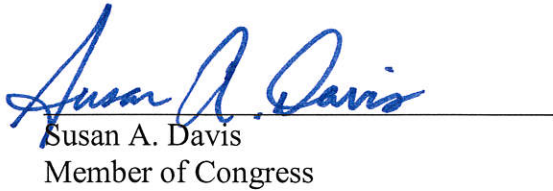
David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



Peter T. King
Member of Congress



André Carson
Member of Congress



Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress



Denny Heck
Member of Congress



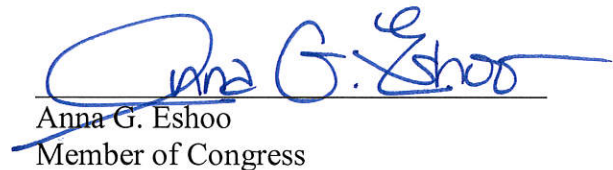
Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



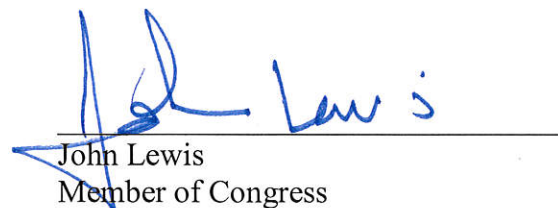
John Yarmuth
Member of Congress



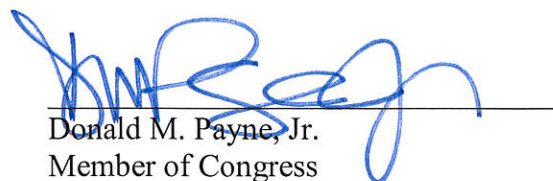
Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Joseph P. Kennedy III
Member of Congress



John Lewis
Member of Congress




Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress




Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress




Jacky Rosen
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress



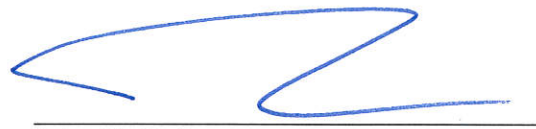
Alma S. Adams
Member of Congress




Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



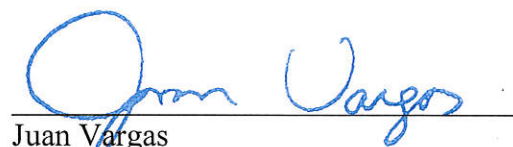
Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress



John K. Delaney
Member of Congress




Sander Levin
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress




Krysten Sinema
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross
Member of Congress




Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress



Terri Sewell
Member of Congress



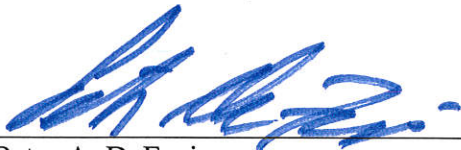
Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



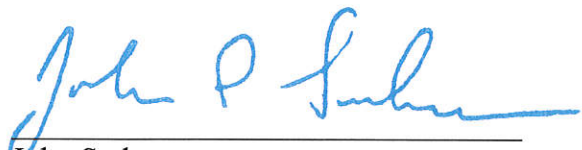
Dina Titus
Member of Congress



Frank A. LoBiondo
Member of Congress



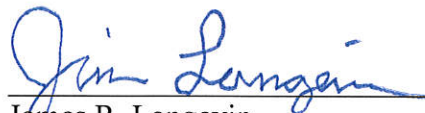
Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



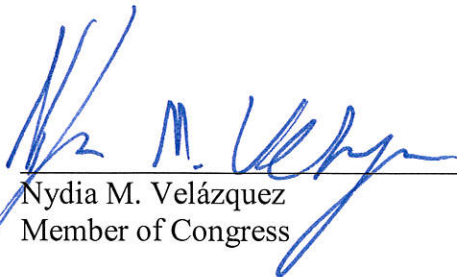
John Sarbanes
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



James R. Langevin
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



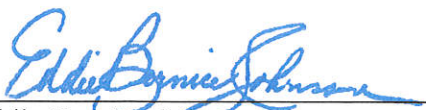
Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



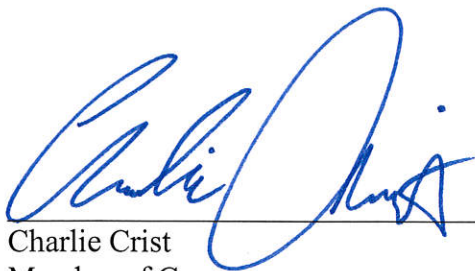
Luis V. Gutiérrez
Member of Congress



Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



Charlie Crist
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Lujan
Member of Congress




Ted Deutch
Member of Congress



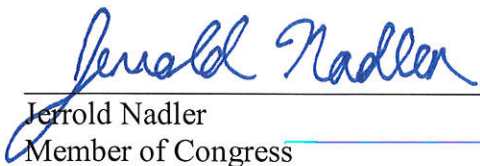
Robert A. Brady
Member of Congress



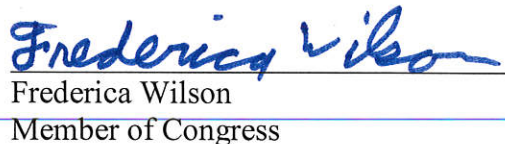
Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



Jackie Speier
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



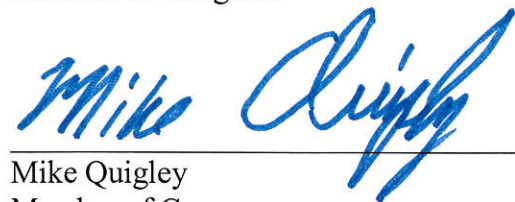
Frederica Wilson
Member of Congress



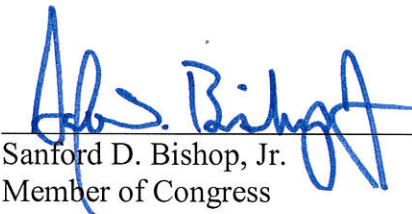
Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



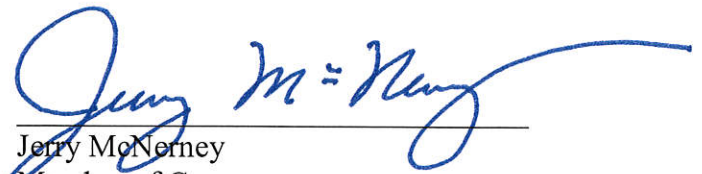
John Garamendi
Member of Congress



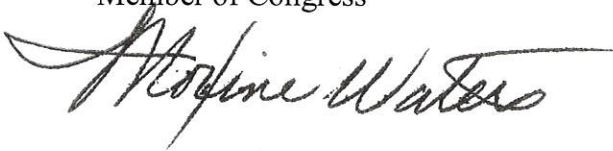
Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress



Mike Coffman
Member of Congress




Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



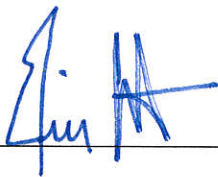
Tim Walz
Member of Congress



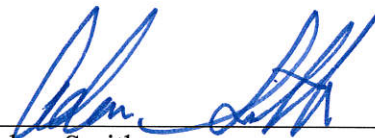
Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress



Elijah E. Cummings
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



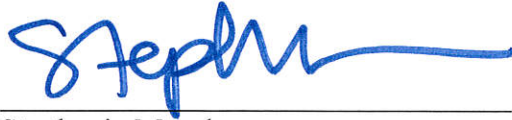
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress



Michelle Lujan Grisham
Member of Congress



Stephanie Murphy
Member of Congress



Daniel M. Donovan, Jr.
Member of Congress




Richard M. Nolan
Member of Congress



Adam Schiff
Member of Congress



Albio Sires
Member of Congress



Eliot Engel
Member of Congress



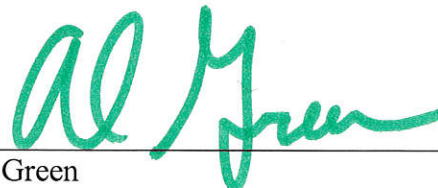
Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



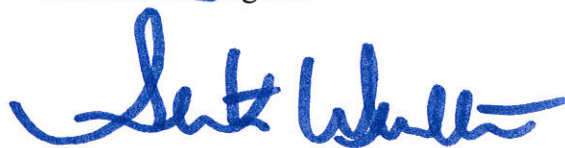
Dana Rohrabacher
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress


Andy Barr
Member of Congress

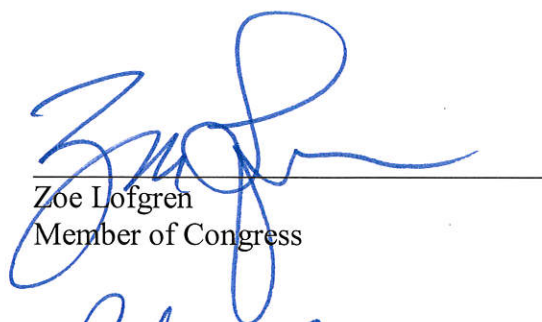

Scott Peters
Member of Congress

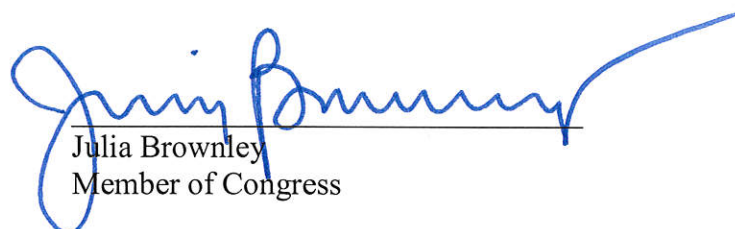

Seth Moulton
Member of Congress

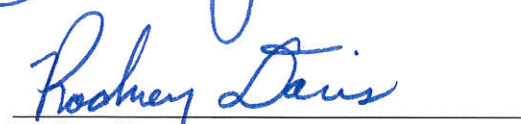

Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress


Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress

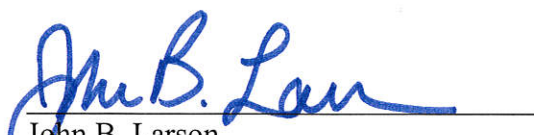

Jared Huffman
Member of Congress


Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress


Julia Brownley
Member of Congress


Rodney Davis
Member of Congress

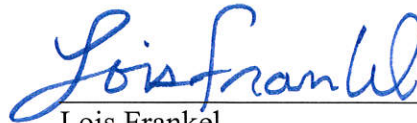

Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress


John B. Larson
Member of Congress


Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress




Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



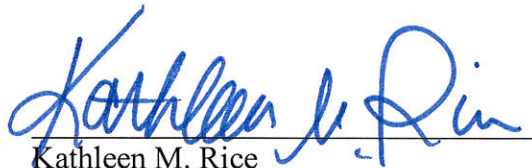
Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Brenda Lawrence
Member of Congress



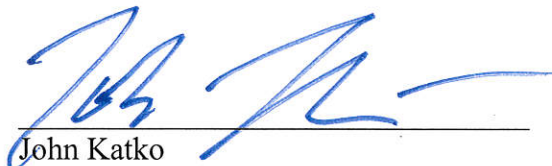
Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



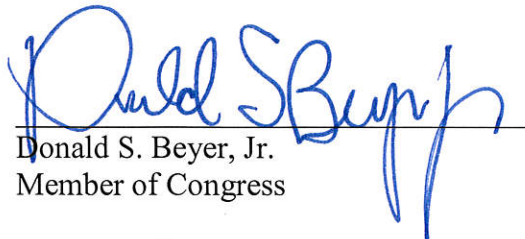
John Katko
Member of Congress



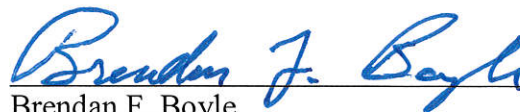
Carol Shea-Porter
Member of Congress



Beto O'Rourke
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer, Jr.
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Carlos Curbelo
Member of Congress



Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress



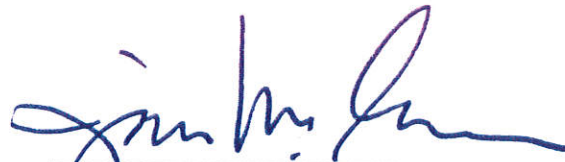
Mike Doyle
Member of Congress



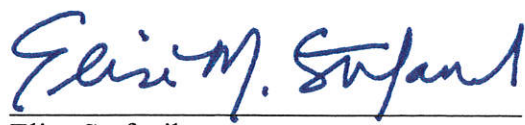
Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



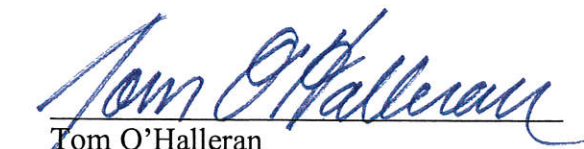
David Scott
Member of Congress




James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



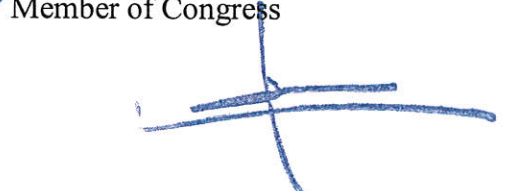
Elise Stefanik
Member of Congress



Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress



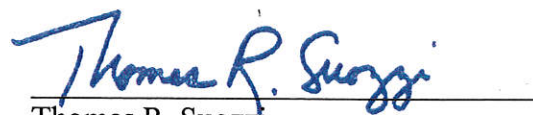
Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



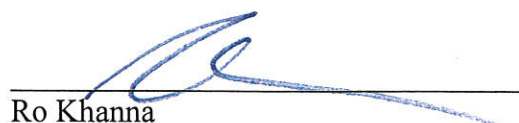
Colleen Hanabusa
Member of Congress



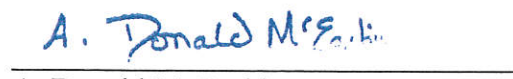
Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress



Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress



Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



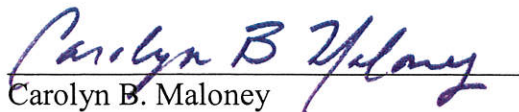
A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress




Barbara Comstock
Member of Congress



Salud O. Carbajal
Member of Congress


Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

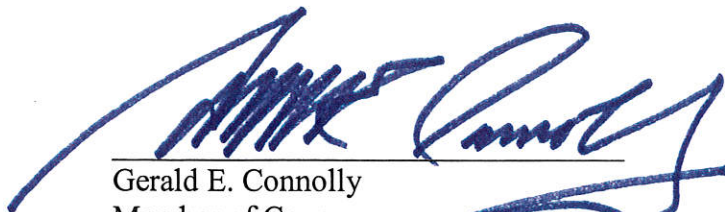

Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress


Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress


Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress


Steve Cohen
Member of Congress


Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress


Jim Cooper
Member of Congress