

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-3302**

March 5, 2025

Acting Commissioner Melanie Krause  
Internal Revenue Service  
1111 Constitution Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20224

Dear Acting Commissioner Krause:

We write to express profound concern regarding the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) decision to lay off approximately 7,000 probationary employees, particularly in compliance departments, at a critical juncture ahead of the 2025 tax season. This abrupt reduction in workforce could exacerbate existing challenges faced by an already overburdened agency and threatens to undermine the IRS' capacity to serve the American people effectively, including ensuring that taxpayers receive timely services and refunds.

As you know, compliance personnel play an indispensable role in ensuring taxpayer adherence to the tax code, pursuing tax evaders, and securing vital revenue for our nation. The Biden administration's recent efforts to strengthen IRS enforcement capabilities have yielded significant results, including the recovery of over \$1.3 billion in back taxes from wealthy tax dodgers by the end of 2024. These efforts are not only a matter of fairness but also a necessity for addressing our nation's debt and revenue shortfalls. The loss of thousands of compliance staff – especially amid ongoing work to modernize the agency and improve taxpayer services – could cripple this progress, emboldening tax evasion and depriving the U.S. of urgently needed resources.

We are further troubled by the timing of these layoffs. IRS employees were previously assured that buyouts would not occur until mid-May 2025, after the tax filing deadline. Moreover, there has been no clarity on the number of IRS personnel who have left the agency under the deferred resignation program (DRP). This lack of transparency underscores the recklessness of unilateral shocks to the federal workforce – there is no way for the public or Congress to understand whether the agency has the necessary staff to fulfill its duties. The decision to proceed with cuts now, during a period of heightened demand for IRS services, raises serious questions about the agency's preparedness to combat fraud, handle taxpayer inquiries, and process returns efficiently.

The American people deserve an IRS capable of fulfilling its dual mandate: enforcing tax laws equitably and providing timely, reliable assistance to filers. Staff reductions of this magnitude risk prolonging processing delays and increasing wait times for taxpayer support – disproportionately harming working families who rely on prompt refunds and accessible services.

In light of these concerns, we respectfully request detailed answers to the following questions:

1. How does the IRS intend to mitigate the operational impacts of these layoffs, particularly in compliance and taxpayer services, during the upcoming tax season?
2. What analysis has the IRS conducted to assess the potential loss in revenue collection resulting from reduced enforcement capabilities?

3. What steps will the agency take to ensure that staffing levels remain adequate to provide reliable services for filers? Specifically, what is the agency's plan to ensure refunds will be processed in a timely manner?
4. To better understand the potential impact of these layoffs, please provide the total number of employees terminated to date, including location and position. In addition, please provide the total number of employees that have agreed to resign as part of the DRP, including location and function. We understand employees that accepted this offer deemed critical to the filing season will be required to work until at least May 15, 2025, however, the status of their employment after that date is uncertain. Can you confirm the status of those employees after May 15?

The IRS is a cornerstone of our nation's fiscal health, and its effectiveness directly impacts the public's confidence in our government. We urge you to act swiftly to address these challenges and provide Congress with a clear plan to ensure that your agency can accomplish its mission and provide timely, effective assistance to taxpayers during tax season.

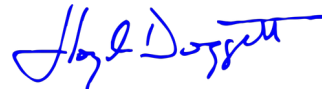
Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter. We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,



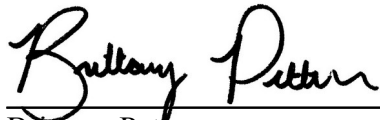
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Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



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Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



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Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress



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



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Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



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Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



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Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



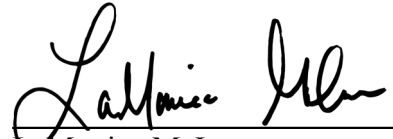
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Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



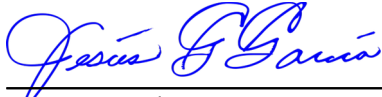
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Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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LaMonica McIver  
Member of Congress



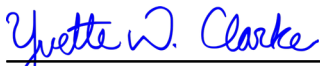
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Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



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Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



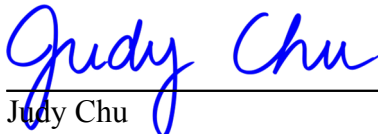
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Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



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Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



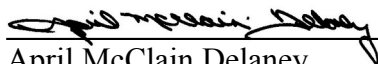
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Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



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Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress



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April McClain Delaney  
Member of Congress



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Greg Casar  
Member of Congress



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Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress




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Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



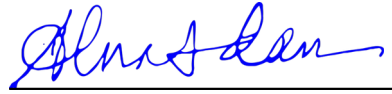
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Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



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James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



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Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress



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Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



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Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



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Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



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Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



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Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



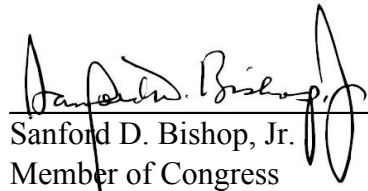
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Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



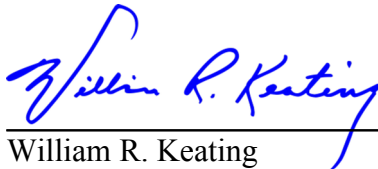
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Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



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Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



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Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



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Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



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Andre Carson  
Member of Congress



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Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress



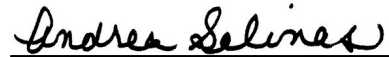
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George Latimer  
Member of Congress



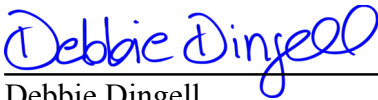
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John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



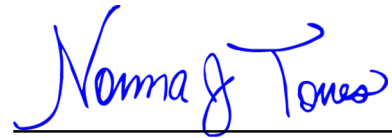
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Andrea Salinas  
Member of Congress



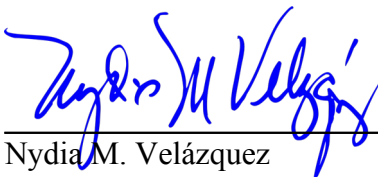
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Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



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Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



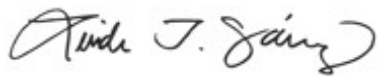
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Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



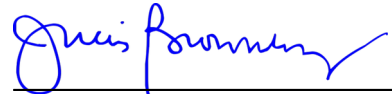
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Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



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Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



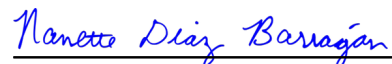
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Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



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Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



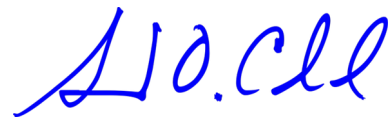
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Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



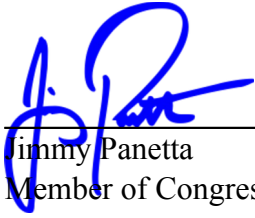
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Sarah McBride  
Member of Congress



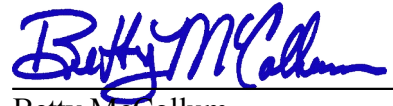
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Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



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Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress



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Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



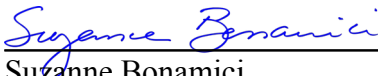
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Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



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Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



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Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress




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Chris Deluzio  
Member of Congress



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Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress



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Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress



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Maxine Dexter  
Member of Congress



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Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



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Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



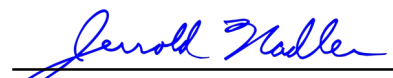
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Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



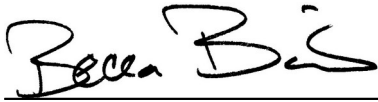
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Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress



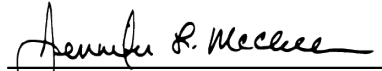
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Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



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Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



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Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



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Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



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Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress



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Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



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Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress



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Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



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Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress



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Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



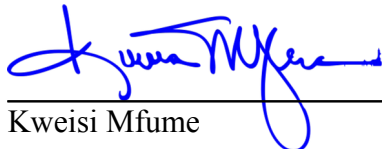
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Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Val Hoyle  
Member of Congress



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Kweisi Mfume  
Member of Congress



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Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



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Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress



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Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



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Valerie P. Foushee  
Member of Congress



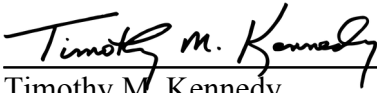
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Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



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Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



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Timothy M. Kennedy  
Member of Congress



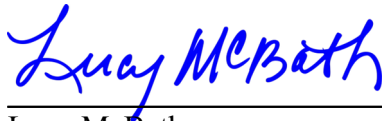
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Wesley Bell  
Member of Congress



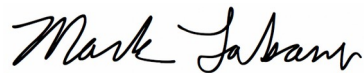
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Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



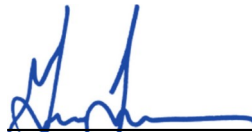
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Lucy McBath  
Member of Congress



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MARK TAKANO  
Member of Congress



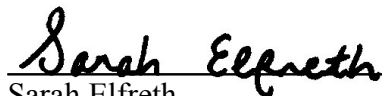
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Greg Landsman  
Member of Congress




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Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress



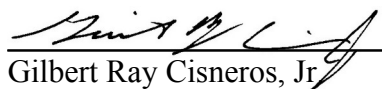
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Sarah Elfreth  
Member of Congress



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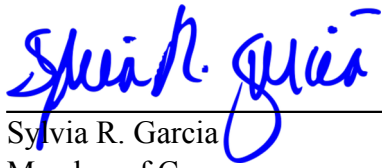
Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



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Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress





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Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



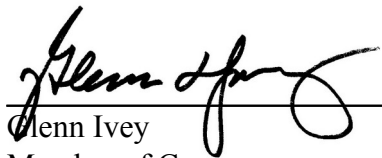
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Al Green  
Member of Congress



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Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



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Glenn Ivey  
Member of Congress



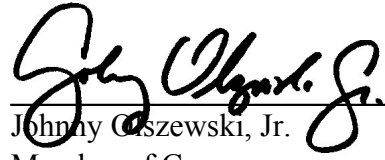
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Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



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Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



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Johnny Ciszewski, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



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Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress  
Ranking Member,  
Subcommittee on Cyber,  
Information Technologies, and  
Innovation



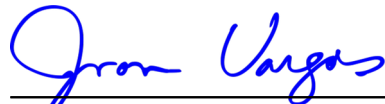
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Jim Tokuda  
Member of Congress



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Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



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Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



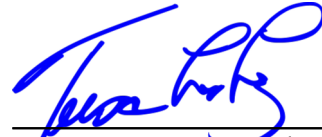
Summer L. Lee  
Member of Congress



Maxwell Alejandro Frost  
Member of Congress



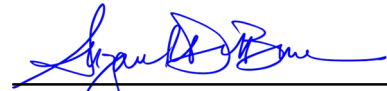
Julie Johnson  
Member of Congress



Teresa Leger Fernandez  
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress



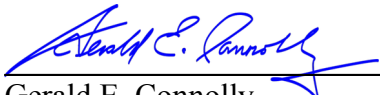
Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



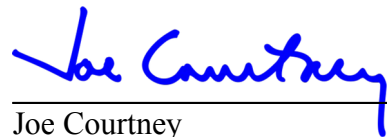
Shontel M. Brown  
Member of Congress



Robert J. Menendez  
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



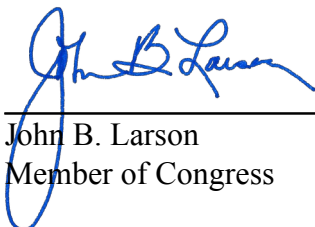
Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress




Melanie Stansbury  
Member of Congress



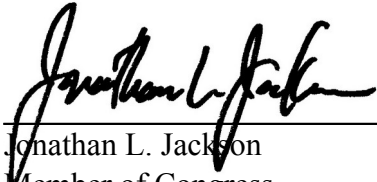
Gabe Amo  
Member of Congress



John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



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Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



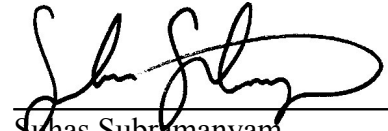
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Joseph D. Morelle  
Member of Congress



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Lateefah Simon  
Member of Congress



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Suhas Subramanyam  
Member of Congress



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Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



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Steny H. Hoyer  
Member of Congress



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Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress



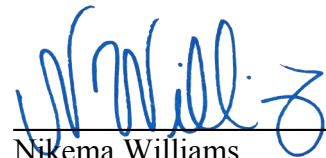
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Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



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Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



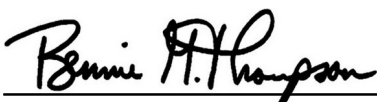
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Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



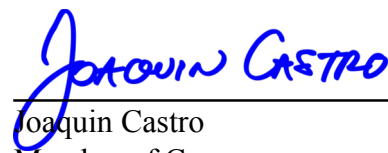
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David Scott  
Member of Congress



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Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



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Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



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Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



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Jake Auchincloss  
Member of Congress