

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

April 4, 2019

The Honorable Nita Lowey  
Chairwoman  
The House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
The House Committee on Appropriations  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard  
Chairwoman  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
House Appropriations Committee  
2006 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Fleischmann  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
House Appropriations Committee  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwomen Lowey and Roybal-Allard and Ranking Members Granger and Fleischmann:

Thank you for your work in helping to ensure additional resources for the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2019. Funding the NSGP program is critical to protecting communities across our nation from threats. As you craft the FY20 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill, we respectfully ask you to fund the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) at \$50 million and \$25 million for non-UASI.

The NSGP provides critical funding to support physical security enhancements to nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of a terrorist attack. The program has improved efforts to keep nonprofit organizations safe by promoting emergency preparedness coordination and collaboration activities between public and private community representatives as well as state and local government agencies. Since today's threat environment continues to evolve quickly, the NSGP helps nonprofits plan for and ready themselves against a terrorist attack.

These funds are especially important considering the February 2019 FBI, DHS, and NCTC Joint Intelligence Bulletin (JIB), which found that domestic extremists; perpetrators of hate crimes; homegrown violent extremists; and foreign terrorist organizations will continue to pose a lethal threat to faith-based communities in the Homeland, particularly against perceived soft targets, such as religious and cultural facilities. In light of this enduring threat, and the difficulty of detecting US-based threat actors, the JIB assesses that those responsible for ensuring the security of houses of worship (e.g., synagogues, churches, and mosques), cultural community centers, and other establishments or individuals associated with various faiths, must remain vigilant.<sup>1</sup> Supporting this assessment, the JIB reports that since January 2017, five incidents targeting Jewish, Christian, and Muslim faith-based communities took place in Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Tennessee, Texas and Minnesota and resulted in 14 deaths and 12 injuries.

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<sup>1</sup> Joint Intelligence Bulletin (IA-32337-19), February 22, 2019.

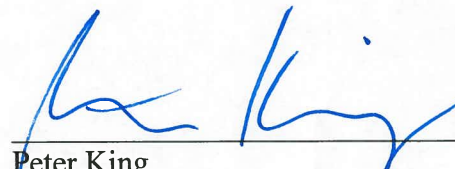
Other reporting supports this concern. According to the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), the number of hate groups in the United States has increased by 30 percent over the past four years and has risen to the highest level in at least 20 years. According to the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), the number of anti-Semitic incidents in 2017 (1,986) was nearly 60 percent higher than in 2016. This represented the largest single-year increase on record and the second highest number reported since the ADL started tracking incident data nearly 50 years ago. According to the public record, recent incidents targeting synagogues, churches, mosques, and other religious centers and nonprofit organizations include shooting and mass shooting, arson and fire bombing, attempted bombing, assault, death threats, hoaxes, vandalism, and property damage. These incidents illustrate the many credible threats against nonprofit institutions across the country and must be taken seriously.


With the rise of hate groups in our nation, the record of threats facing members of our community, and the February 2019 assessment by U.S. Counterterrorism agencies that the threat to faith-based communities posed by domestic extremists is enduring, now more than ever Congress needs to strengthen the NSGP program. For these reasons, we respectfully encourage you to fund the UASI NSGP at \$50 million and \$25 million for non-UASI, so our nation can do all it can to prevent direct threats to communities and protect at-risk nonprofit institutions from these grave threats.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

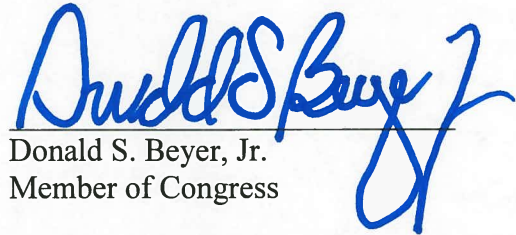
Sincerely,


  
Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress


  
Peter King  
Member of Congress

  
Alma S. Adams  
Member of Congress

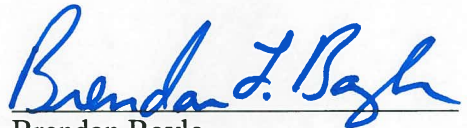
  
Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress


  
Donald S. Beyer, Jr.  
Member of Congress

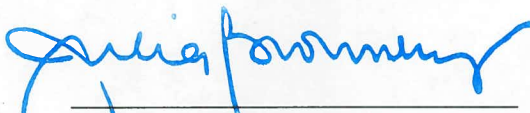
  
Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress

  
Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress

  
Mike Bost  
Member of Congress

  
Brendan J. Boyle  
Member of Congress


  
Anthony G. Brown  
Member of Congress


  
Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress

  
Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress

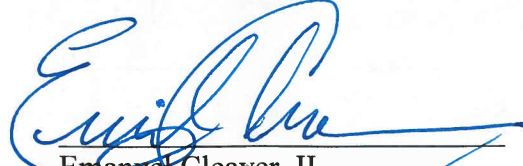
  
André Carson  
Member of Congress


  
Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress

  
Steve Chabot  
Member of Congress


  
Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress

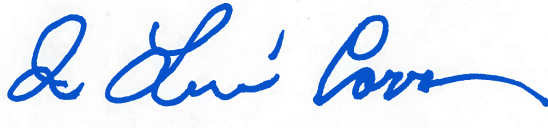
  
Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress


  
Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress

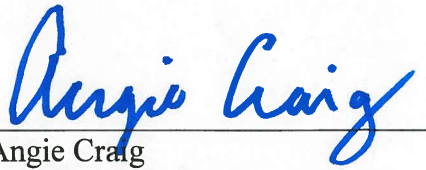
  
Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress

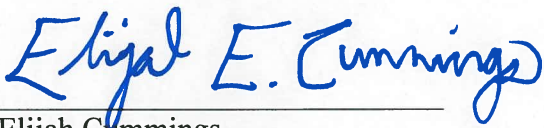
  
Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress


  
Jim Cooper  
Member of Congress

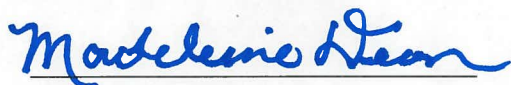
  
Lou Correa  
Member of Congress

  
Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress

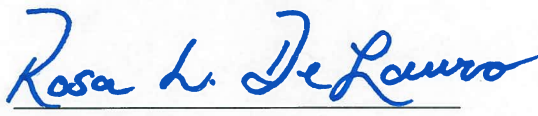
  
Angie Craig  
Member of Congress

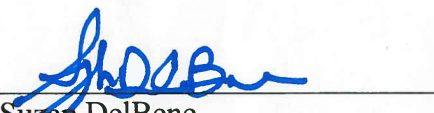
  
Elijah Cummings  
Member of Congress


  
Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress


  
Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress

  
Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress

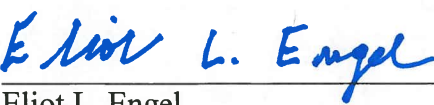
  
Rosa DeLauro  
Member of Congress

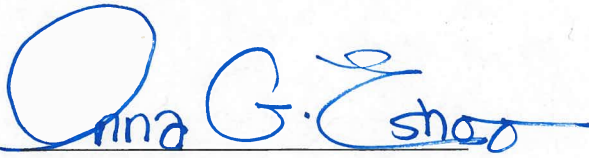
  
Suzan DelBene  
Member of Congress

  
Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress

  
Theodore E. Deutch  
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Mike Doyle  
Member of Congress

  
Eliot L. Engel  
Member of Congress



Anna Eshoo  
Member of Congress



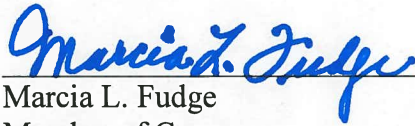
Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



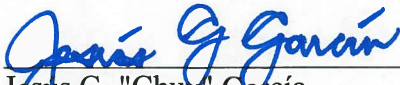
Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



Marcia L. Fudge  
Member of Congress



Tulsi Gabbard  
Member of Congress



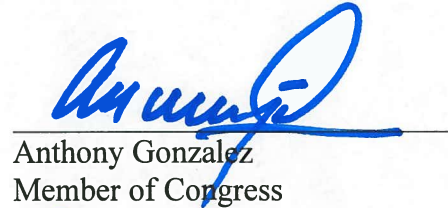
Jesus G. "Chuy" Garcia  
Member of Congress



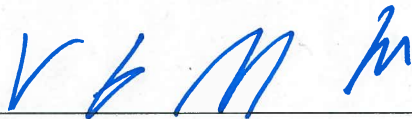
Bob Gibbs  
Member of Congress



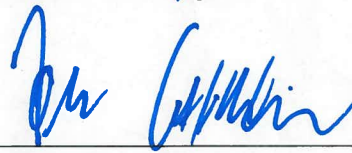
Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



Anthony Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress




Al Green  
Member of Congress



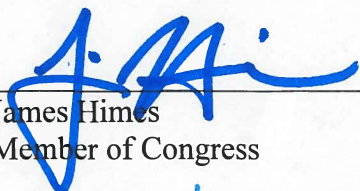
Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress

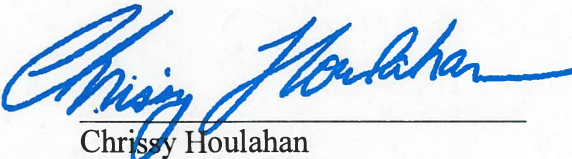


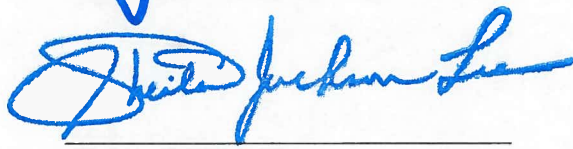
Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress

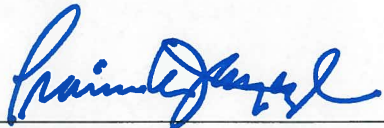


Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress

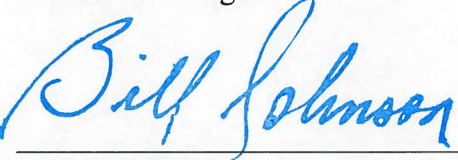
  
James Himes  
Member of Congress

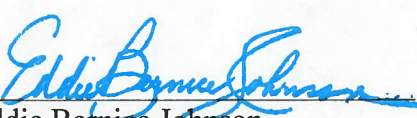
  
Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress

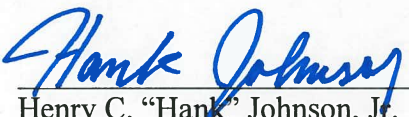
  
Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress


  
Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress

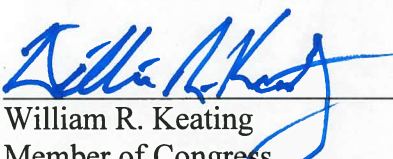
  
Hakeem Jeffries  
Member of Congress

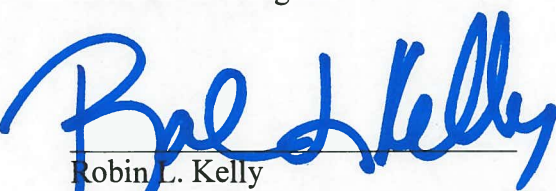
  
Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress


  
Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Member of Congress


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

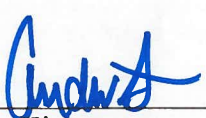
  
John Katko  
Member of Congress

  
William R. Keating  
Member of Congress

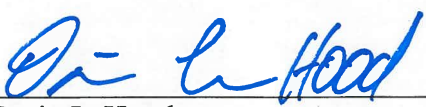
  
Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress

  
Joseph P. Kennedy III  
Member of Congress

  
Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress

  
Andy Kim  
Member of Congress

  
Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress

  
Darin LaHood  
Member of Congress

*Conor Lamb*

Conor Lamb  
Member of Congress

*Jim Langevin*

James Langevin  
Member of Congress

*Rick Larsen*

Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress

*John Larson*

John Larson  
Member of Congress

*Andy Levin*

Andy Levin  
Member of Congress

*John Lewis*

John Lewis  
Member of Congress

*Ted W. Lieu*

Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress

*Daniel W. Lipinski*

Daniel W. Lipinski  
Member of Congress

*Zoe Lofgren*

Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress

*Alan Lowenthal*

Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress

*Ami Bera*

Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress

*Tom Malinowski*

Tom Malinowski  
Member of Congress

*Sean Patrick Maloney*

Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress

*Carolyn B. Maloney*

Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress

*Ben McAdams*

Ben McAdams  
Member of Congress

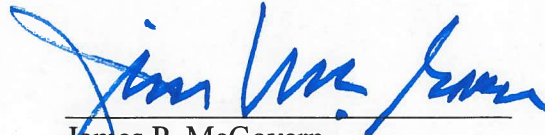
*Lucy McBath*

Lucy McBath  
Member of Congress

M.C.



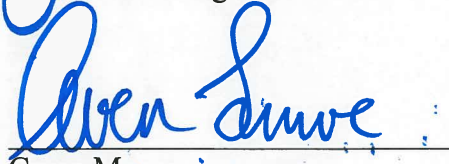
A. Donald McEachin  
Member of Congress



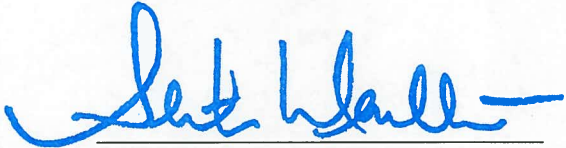
James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



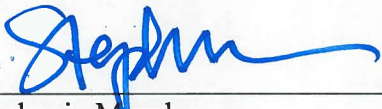
Gwen Moore  
Member of Congress



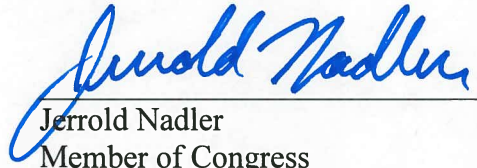
Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



Debbie Mucarsel-Powell  
Member of Congress



Stephanie Murphy  
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress




Tom O'Halleran  
Member of Congress



Pete Olson  
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress

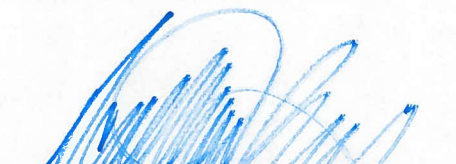


Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress




Ed Perlmutter  
Member of Congress





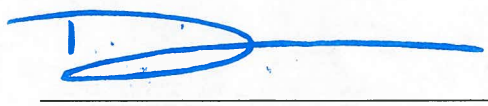
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Scott Perry  
Member of Congress



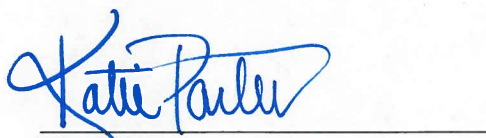
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Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



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Dean Phillips  
Member of Congress



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Katie Porter  
Member of Congress




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Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



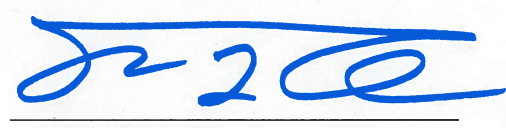
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Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress




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Kathleen M. Rice  
Member of Congress



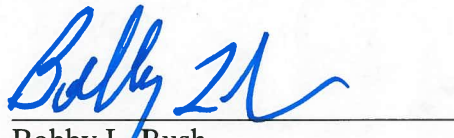
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Cedric Richmond  
Member of Congress



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Max Rose  
Member of Congress



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Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress




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John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



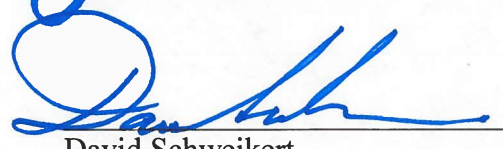
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Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress




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Bradley S. Schneider  
Member of Congress



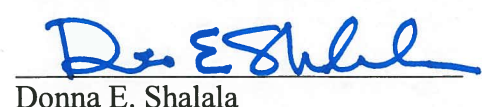
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David Schweikert  
Member of Congress



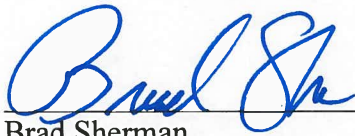
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David Scott  
Member of Congress



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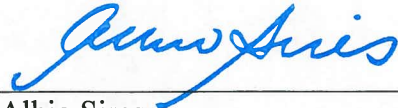
Donna E. Shalala  
Member of Congress



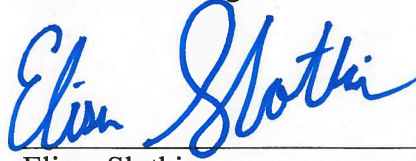
Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



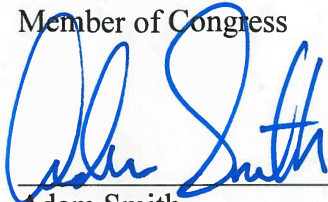
Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress



Albio Sires  
Member of Congress




Elissa Slotkin  
Member of Congress



Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



Christopher H. Smith  
Member of Congress



Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress



Haley Stevens  
Member of Congress



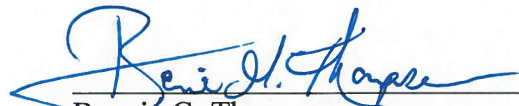
Steve Stivers  
Member of Congress




Thomas R. Suozzi  
Member of Congress



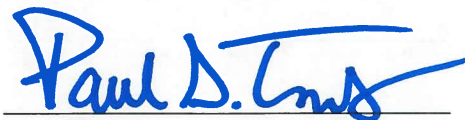
Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



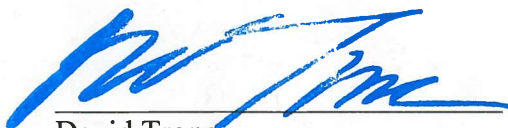
Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



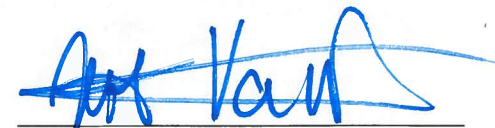
Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



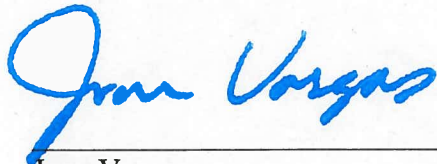
Paul Tonko  
Member of Congress



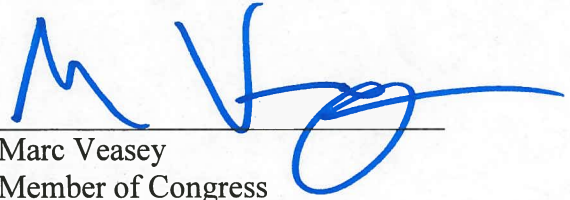
David Trone  
Member of Congress



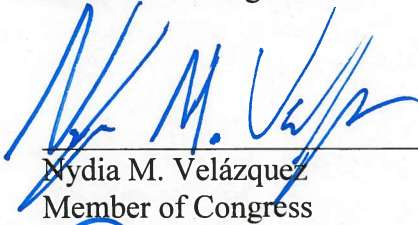
Jeff Van Drew  
Member of Congress



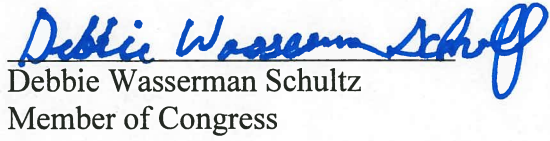
Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



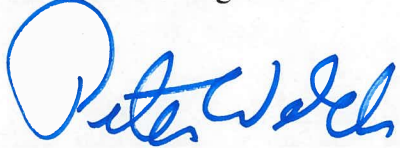
Marc Veasey  
Member of Congress



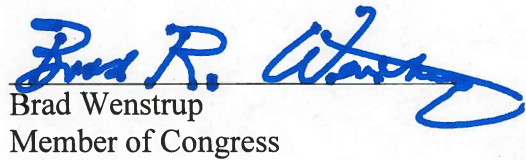
Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



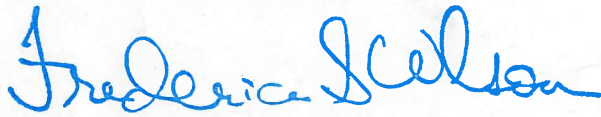
Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



Peter Welch  
Member of Congress



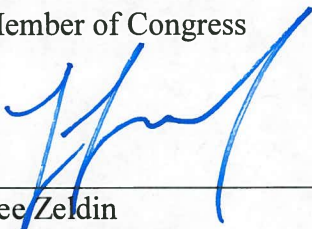
Brad Wenstrup  
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



John Yarmuth  
Member of Congress



Lee Zeldin  
Member of Congress



Karen Bass  
Member of Congress