

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

March 21, 2013

Advisory Policy Board Members  
U.S. Department of Justice  
c/o R. Scott Trent  
CJIS Designated Federal Officer  
Criminal Justice Information Services Division  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20535-0001

Dear Members of the Advisory Policy Board:

We would like to respectfully express our strong support for adding three new categories to the FBI's Hate Crime Statistics Act (HCSA) data collection mandate -- anti-Sikh, anti-Hindu and anti-Arab hate crimes. Unfortunately, there is a specific, demonstrated need for hate crime data for each of these three categories.

We are in favor of such a move in part because many Congressional offices have heard from constituents and leaders in the Sikh, Hindu and Arab-American communities about their ongoing fear of being the victim of a hate crime. This fear is a result of demonstrable and specific violent threats and attacks. For example, a man attempted to firebomb a Hindu Temple in New York on New Year's Day, 2012. In December 2012, a Hindu man whose attacker said she hated Hindus and Muslims was shoved in front of an oncoming subway train, resulting in his death. Even before the horrific massacre at the Sikh Temple in Oak Creek, Wisconsin in August 2012 that took the lives of six worshippers, two Sikh men in Sacramento were killed and another in New York was brutally attacked.

We are also deeply concerned about this issue because attacks and threats against Sikhs, Hindus and Arabs appear to be aimed in part at our nation's youth. For instance, in one major urban area, a shocking three out of four turbaned Sikh boys reported being harassed and bullied in schools because of their appearance and Sikh identity.

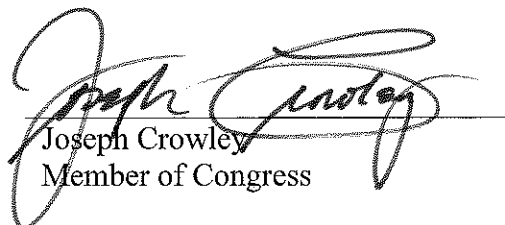
We understand that, at present, the FBI does not collect specific information about these categories of hate violence, which may at times be recorded as anti-Muslim bias motivation. However, evidence suggests that all too many crimes are committed against these groups because of their religious or national identity, and not because they are confused with Muslims.

Given the scale of the problem and that these discrete communities are so acutely susceptible to hate violence in the United States, we urge the Advisory Board to support adding these three categories to the existing HCSA data collection mandate for federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. We also believe that doing so will encourage affected community

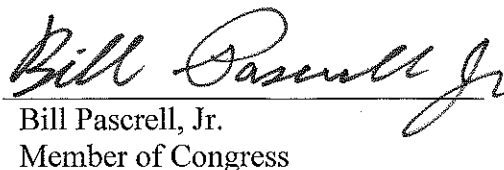
members to report hate crimes to law enforcement officials and strengthen relationships between communities, local and state law enforcement, the FBI and the Department of Justice.

Thank you for your careful consideration of these issues.

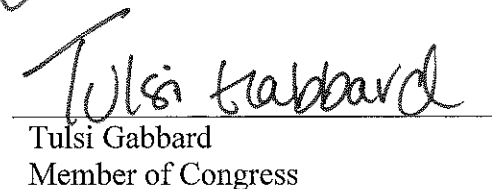
Sincerely,



Joseph Crowley  
Member of Congress



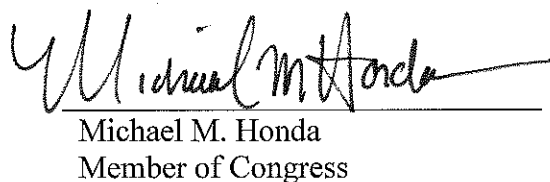
Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Tulsi Gabbard  
Member of Congress



Eliot L. Engel  
Member of Congress



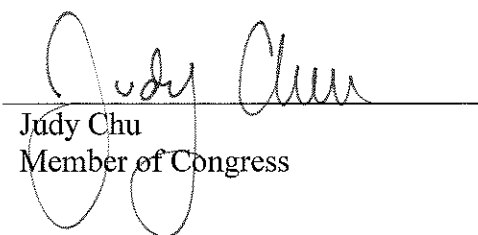
Michael M. Honda  
Member of Congress



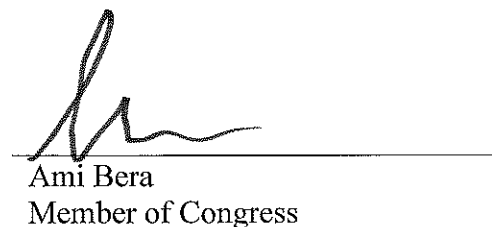
Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



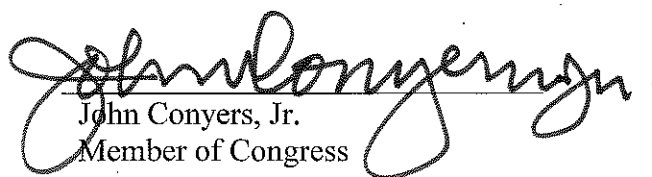
Gary C. Peters  
Member of Congress



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Ami Bera  
Member of Congress



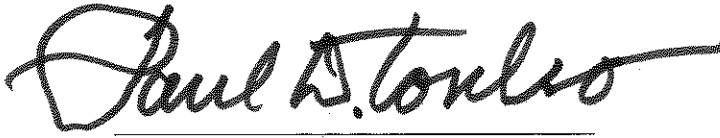
John Conyers, Jr.  
Member of Congress



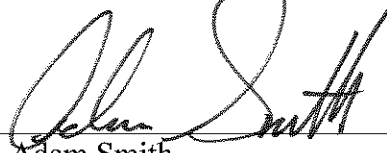
Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



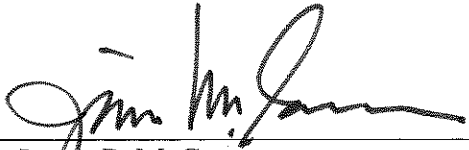
Tammy Duckworth  
Member of Congress



Paul Tonko  
Member of Congress



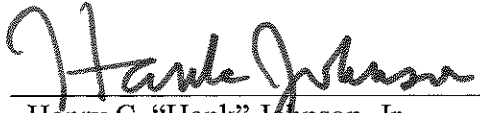
Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress




Peter Welch  
Member of Congress



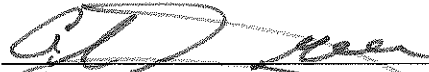
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr  
Member of Congress



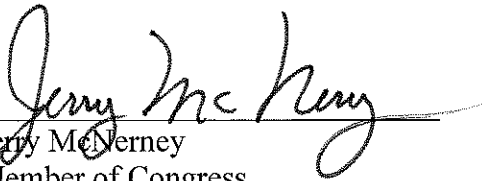
Keith Ellison  
Member of Congress



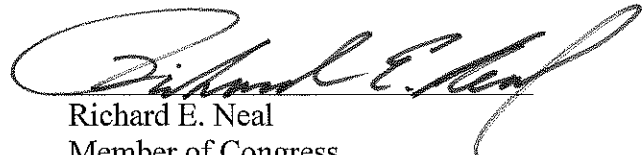
John Garamendi  
Member of Congress




Al Green  
Member of Congress



Jerry McInerney  
Member of Congress



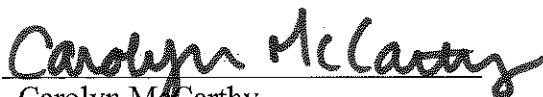
Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress



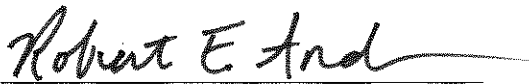
Pedro R. Pierluisi  
Member of Congress



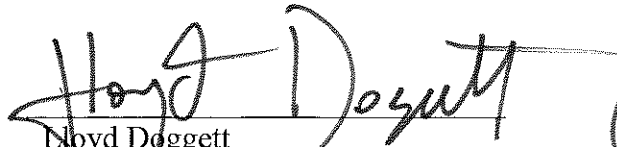
Steve Israel  
Member of Congress




Carolyn McCarthy  
Member of Congress

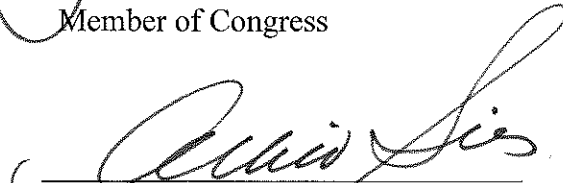



Robert E. Andrews  
Member of Congress


  
Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress


  
Janice Hahn  
Member of Congress

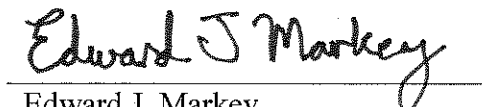
  
Eni F.H. Faleomavaega  
Member of Congress

  
Albio Sires  
Member of Congress

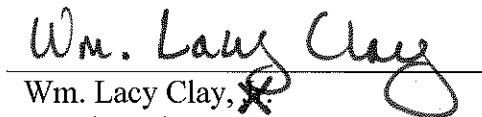
  
Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress


  
Peter A. DeFazio  
Member of Congress

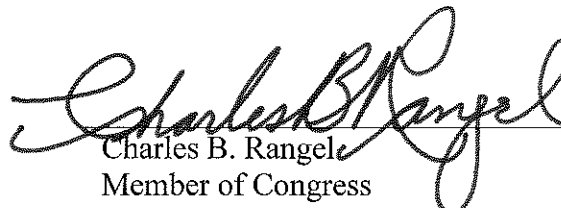
  
Mark Takano  
Member of Congress

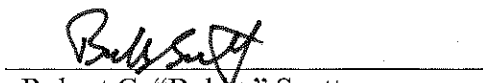
  
Edward J. Markey  
Member of Congress

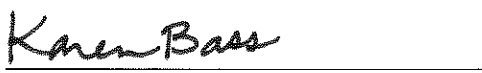
  
Joseph P. Kennedy, III  
Member of Congress

  
Wm. Lacy Clay, ~~R~~  
Member of Congress

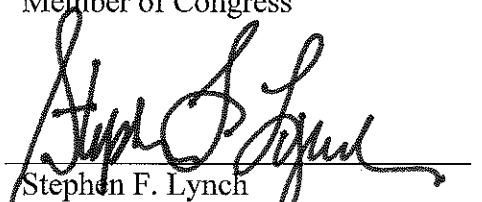
  
Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress

  
Charles B. Rangel  
Member of Congress

  
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress


  
Karen Bass  
Member of Congress

  
Elijah E. Cummings  
Member of Congress

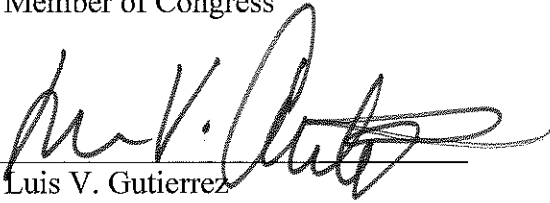
  
Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress



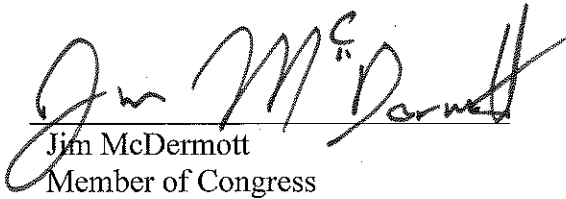
Loretta Sanchez  
Member of Congress



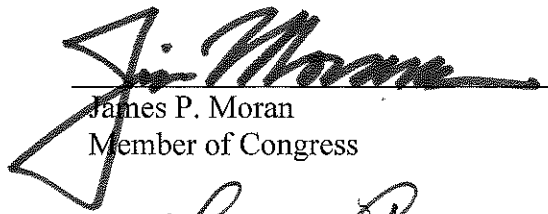
Luis V. Gutierrez  
Member of Congress



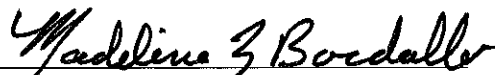
Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress



Jim McDermott  
Member of Congress



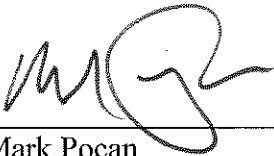
James P. Moran  
Member of Congress



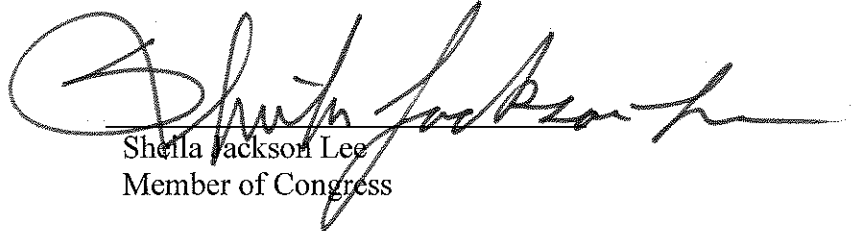
Madeline Z. Bordallo  
Member of Congress



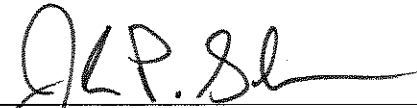
Lois Capps  
Member of Congress



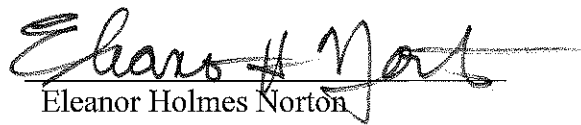
Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



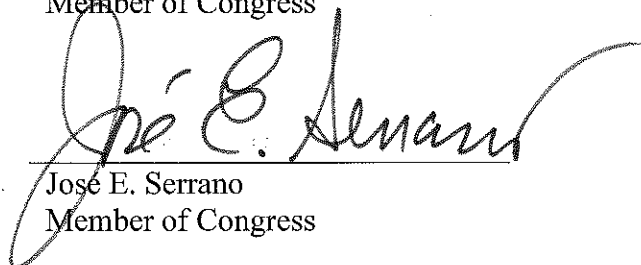
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



Alan S. Lowenthal  
Member of Congress



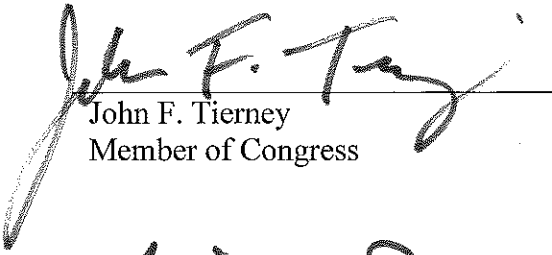
John D. Dingell  
Member of Congress




José E. Serrano  
Member of Congress



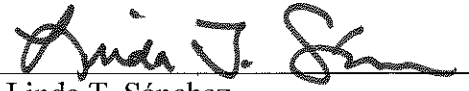
Tony Cardenas  
Member of Congress



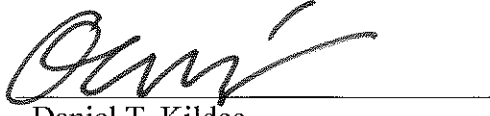
John F. Tierney  
Member of Congress



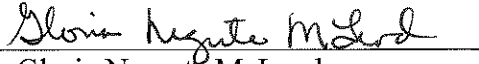
David E. Price  
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



Daniel T. Kildee  
Member of Congress



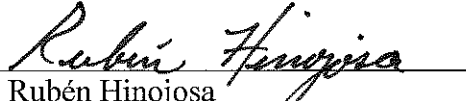
Gloria Negrete McLeod  
Member of Congress



Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan  
Member of Congress



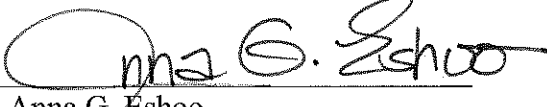
André Carson  
Member of Congress



Rubén Hinojosa  
Member of Congress



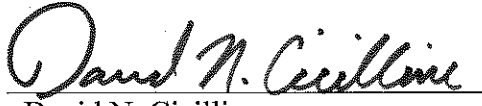
Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



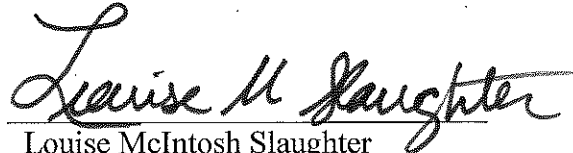
Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress



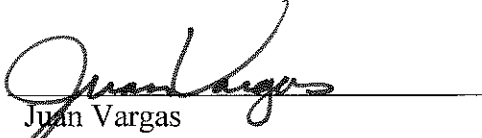
Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress



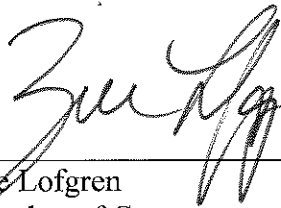
David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress



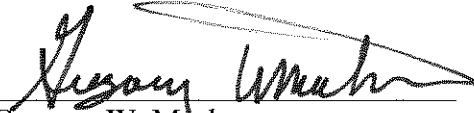
Louise McIntosh Slaughter  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



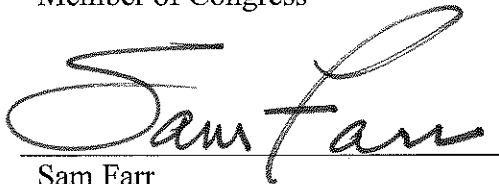
Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



Sam Farr  
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



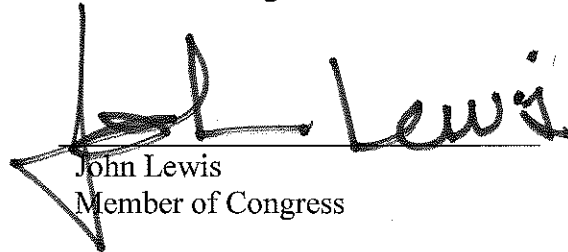
Janice D. Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



Michael E. Capuano  
Member of Congress



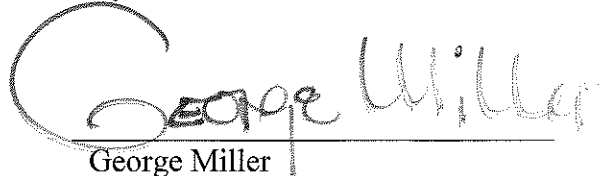
Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



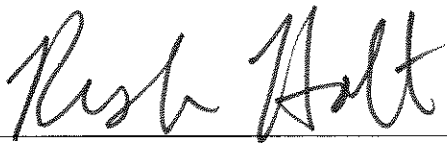
John Lewis  
Member of Congress



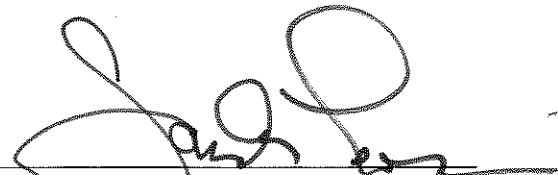
Grace F. Napolitano  
Member of Congress



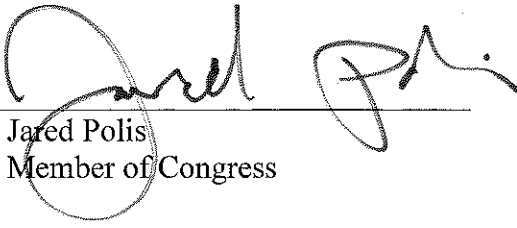
George Miller  
Member of Congress



Rush Holt  
Member of Congress

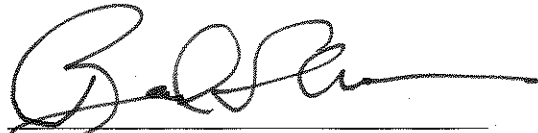


Sander M. Levin  
Member of Congress




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Jared Polis  
Member of Congress



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Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



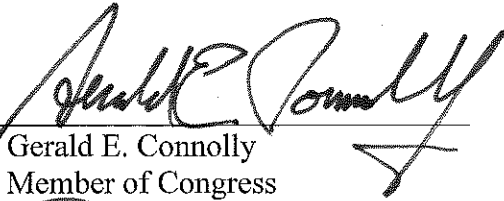
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Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



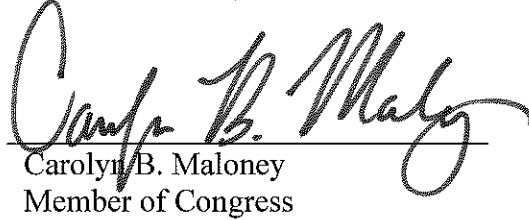
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Jackie Speier  
Member of Congress



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Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



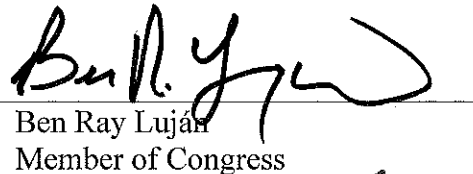
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Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress



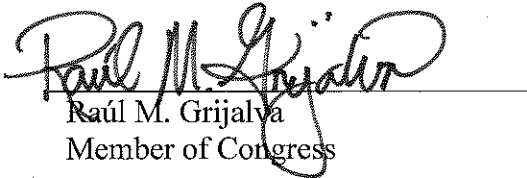
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Ron Kind  
Member of Congress



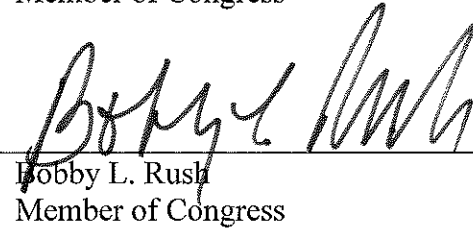
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Ben Ray Lujan  
Member of Congress



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Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



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Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress



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Doris O. Matsui  
Member of Congress



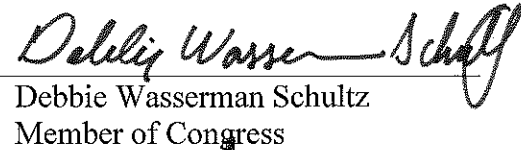
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Gwen Moore  
Member of Congress



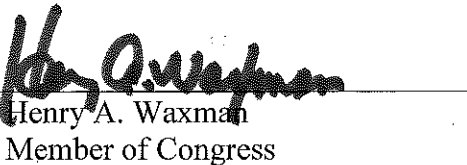
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Theodore E. Deutch  
Member of Congress



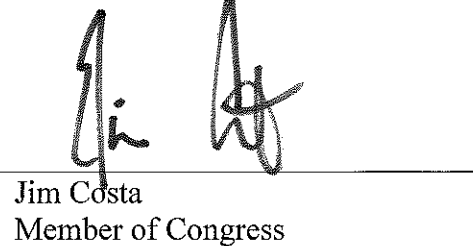
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Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



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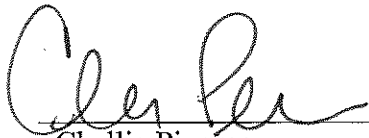
Henry A. Waxman  
Member of Congress



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Jim Costa  
Member of Congress





Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



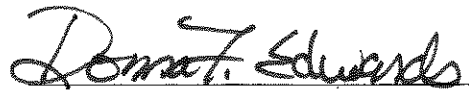
Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



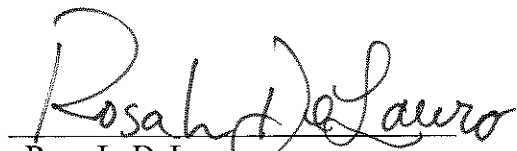
Niki Tsongas  
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



Donna Edwards  
Member of Congress



Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress