

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 16, 2006

The Honorable Ralph Regula
Chairman, Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, and
Education
House Appropriations Committee
2358 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Obey
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor
Health and Human Services, and
Education
House Appropriations Committee
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Regula and Ranking Member Obey:

As your Subcommittee prepares to consider the Fiscal Year 2007 Appropriations Bill for the Department of Education, we urge you to recommend \$25,043,040 for the Reading Is Fundamental Inexpensive Book Distribution Program.

Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) is the nation's oldest and largest children's literacy organization. In partnership with thousands of schools, public agencies, nonprofit organizations and corporations across the country, RIF provides millions of at-risk children with free books for personal ownership; develops research-based resources to guide educators, parents and other care-providers in creating literacy-rich environments for children; and works to ensure that every child, no matter his or her socio-economic status, is motivated to read and has the opportunity to experience the wonder of books.

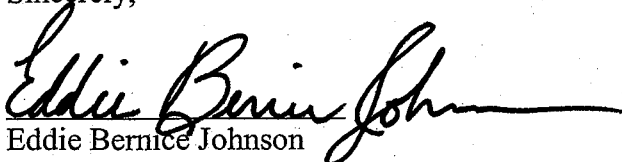
With the support of Congress, the Department of Education and private funders, last year RIF distributed 14.7 million books to nearly 4.5 million children across the country. Almost 85 percent of the federal funds were used to purchase books and RIF volunteers leveraged the federal dollars to raise an additional \$8.6 million to support book ownership.

The monies we have requested for FY2007 would enable RIF to continue serving some of our nation's most vulnerable children. Moreover, RIF could bring more quality training and resources to parents, childcare providers, and volunteers about the best ways to motivate and inspire children to read.

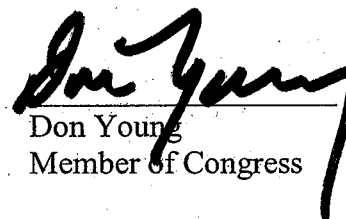
The RIF Inexpensive Book Distribution Program enriches the lives of children in every state in the country. We ask your support for an appropriation of \$25,043,040, the same as the FY2006 appropriation and the amount requested by the Administration for FY2007.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please let us know if you need additional information.

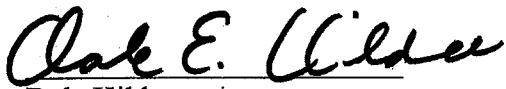
Sincerely,

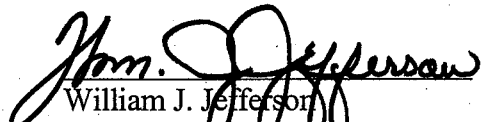



Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress

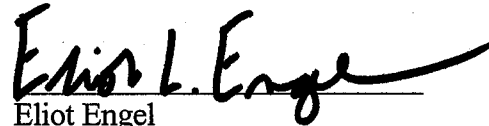


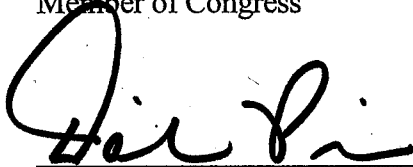
Don Young
Member of Congress

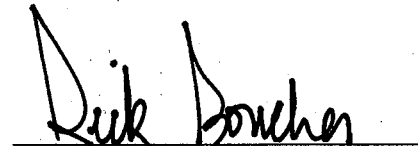

Dale Kildee
Member of Congress



William J. Jefferson
Member of Congress



Collin C. Peterson
Member of Congress

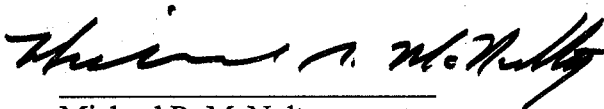

Eliot Engel
Member of Congress

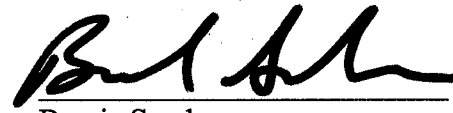

David Price
Member of Congress



Rick Boucher
Member of Congress

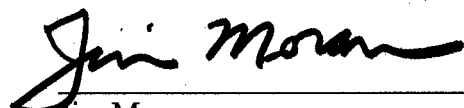

Benjamin L. Cardin
Member of Congress



Donald M. Payne
Member of Congress

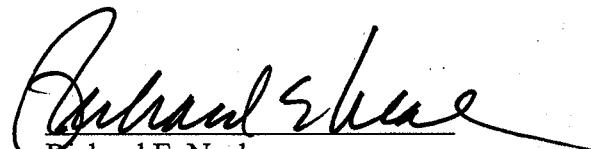

Michael R. McNulty
Member of Congress

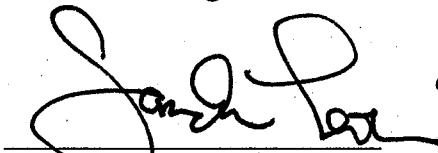

Bernie Sanders
Member of Congress

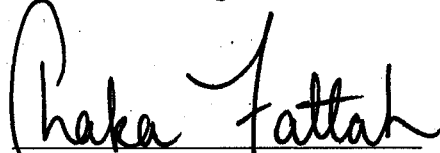

Elijah Cummings
Member of Congress


Jim Moran
Member of Congress


Gary Ackerman
Member of Congress


Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress


Sander Levin
Member of Congress


Chaka Fattah
Member of Congress

Nydia M. Velazquez
Nydia M. Velazquez
Member of Congress

Sherwood L. Boehlert
Sherwood L. Boehlert
Member of Congress

Doris O. Matsui
Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress

Maxine Waters
Maxine Waters
Member of Congress

James L. Oberstar
James L. Oberstar
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

William D. Delahunt
William D. Delahunt
Member of Congress

Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress

Edward J. Markey
Edward J. Markey
Member of Congress

Earl Pomeroy
Earl Pomeroy
Member of Congress

Ken Calvert
Ken Calvert
Member of Congress

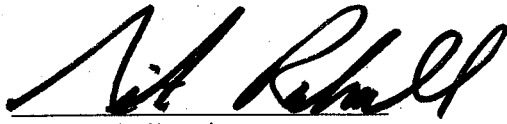
Edolphus Towns
Edolphus Towns
Member of Congress

Darlene Hooley
Darlene Hooley
Member of Congress

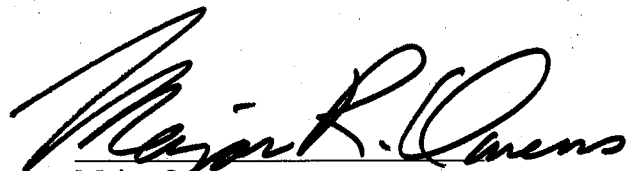
Barbara Lee
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

Vic Snyder
Vic Snyder
Member of Congress

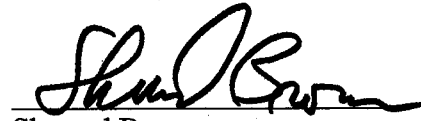
Marcy Kaptur
Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress



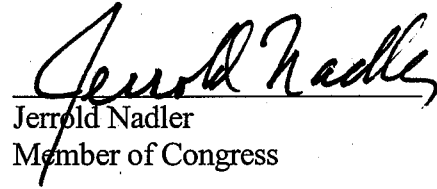
Nick Rahall
Member of Congress



Major Owens
Member of Congress



Sherrod Brown
Member of Congress



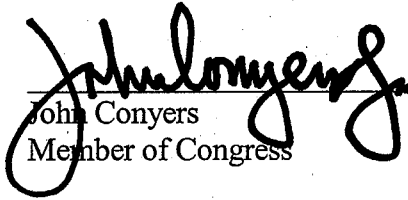
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



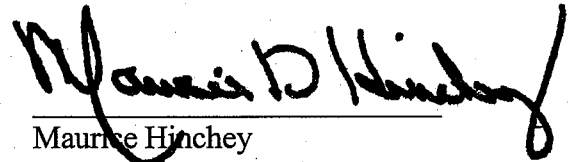
Tom Lantos
Member of Congress



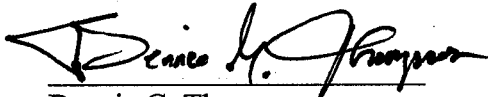
Tim Holden
Member of Congress



John Conyers
Member of Congress



Maurice Hinchey
Member of Congress



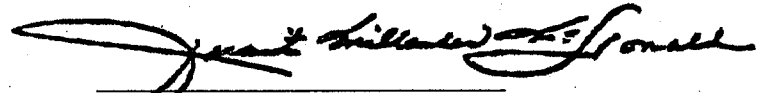
Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



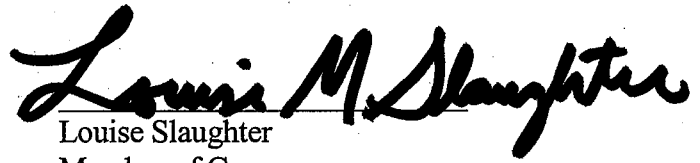
Corrine Brown
Member of Congress



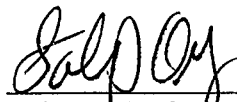
Janita Millender-McDonald
Member of Congress



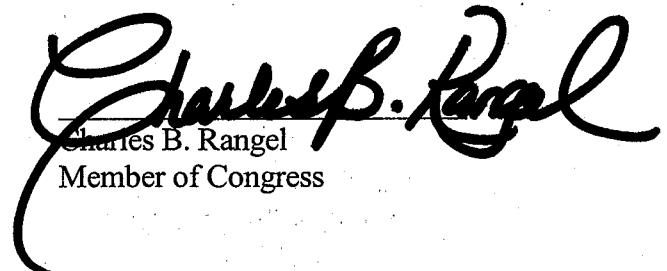
Ruben Hinojosa
Member of Congress



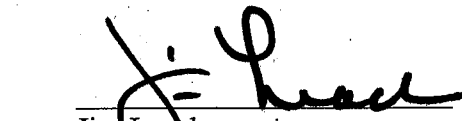
Louise Slaughter
Member of Congress

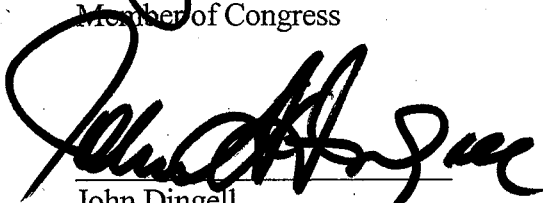



Solomon P. Ortiz
Member of Congress

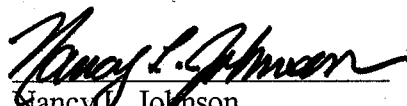


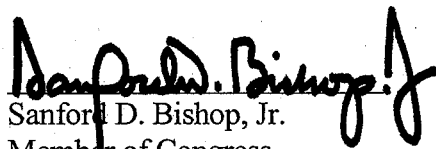
Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress

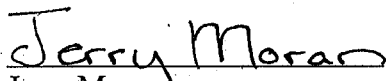

Jim Leach
Member of Congress

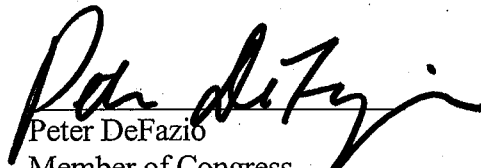

John Dingell
Member of Congress

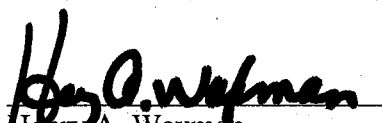

Tom Davis
Member of Congress



Nancy L. Johnson
Member of Congress

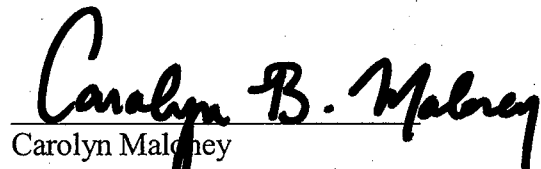

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress

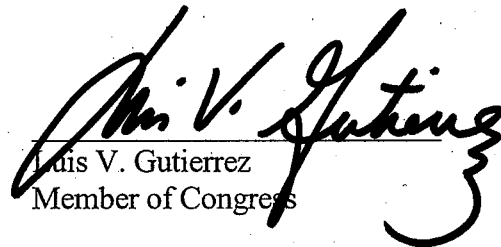

Jerry Moran
Member of Congress

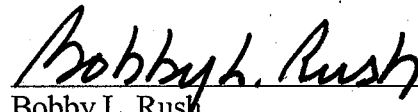

Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress

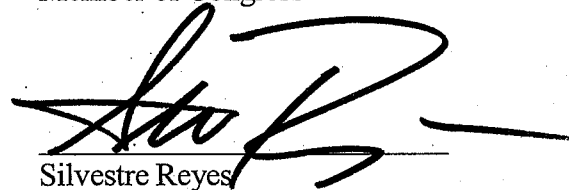

Henry A. Waxman
Member of Congress

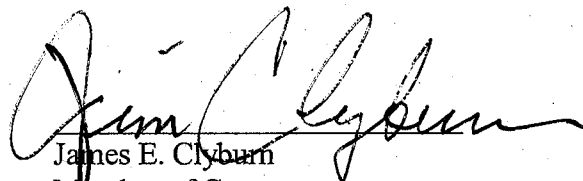

Lane Evans
Member of Congress

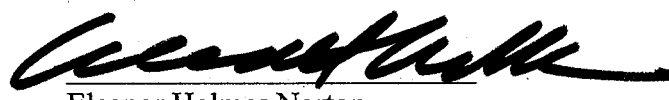

Carolyn Maloney
Member of Congress

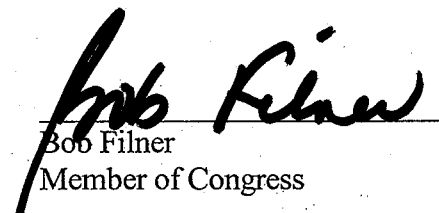

Luis V. Gutierrez
Member of Congress

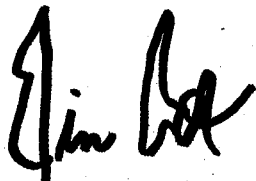

Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress


Silvestre Reyes
Member of Congress


James E. Clyburn
Member of Congress


Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

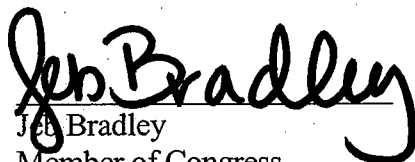

Bob Filner
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



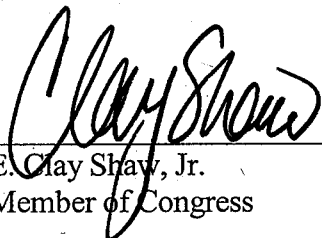
Kendrick B. Meek
Member of Congress



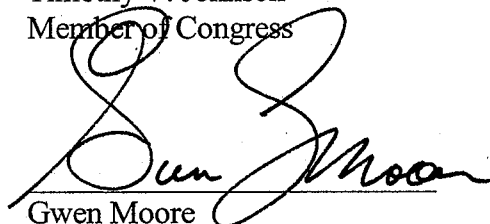
Jeb Bradley
Member of Congress



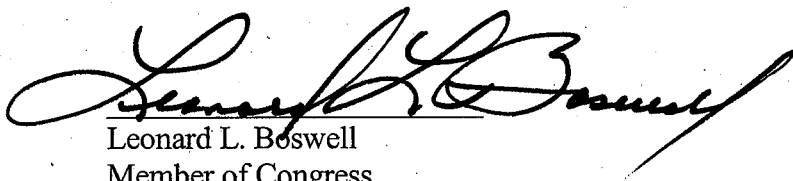
Timothy V. Johnson
Member of Congress



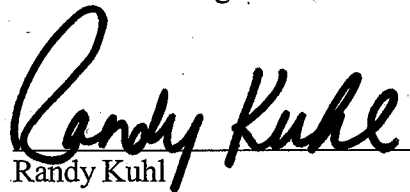
E. Clay Shaw, Jr.
Member of Congress



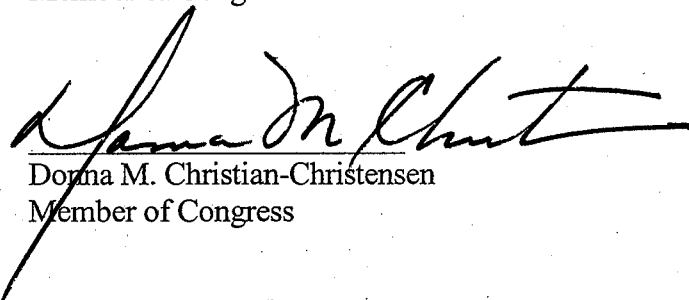
Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



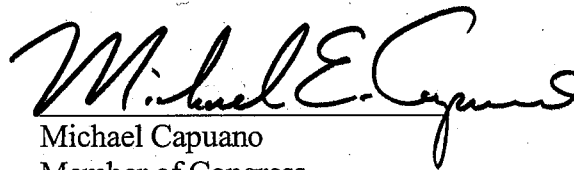
Leonard L. Boswell
Member of Congress



Randy Kuhl
Member of Congress



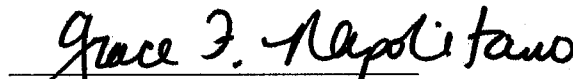
Donna M. Christian-Christensen
Member of Congress



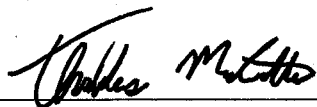
Michael Capuano
Member of Congress



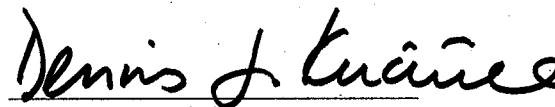
Julia Carson
Member of Congress



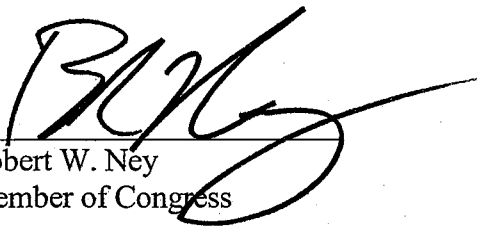
Grace Napolitano
Member of Congress



Thaddeus McCotter
Member of Congress



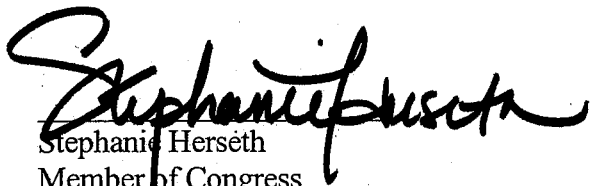
Dennis J. Kucinich
Member of Congress

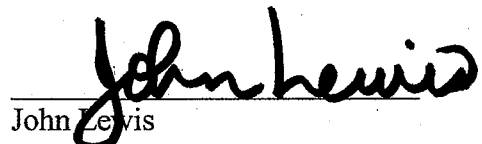



Robert W. Ney
Member of Congress




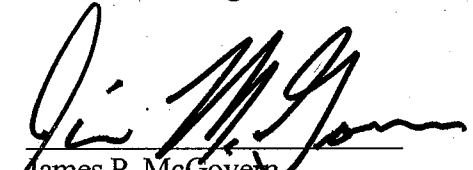
Robert E. Andrews
Member of Congress

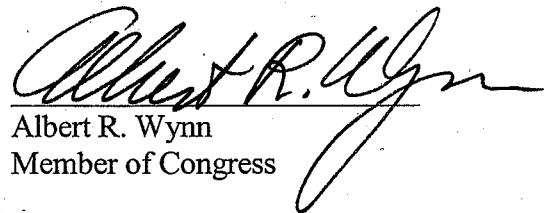

Stephanie Herseth
Member of Congress

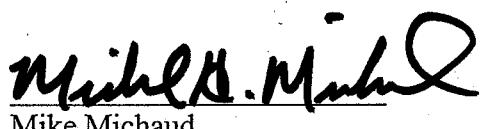

John Lewis
Member of Congress

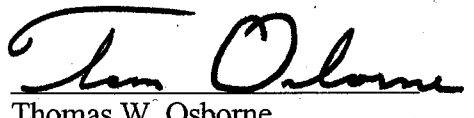

Ginny Brown-Waite
Member of Congress



David Scott
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Albert R. Wynn
Member of Congress

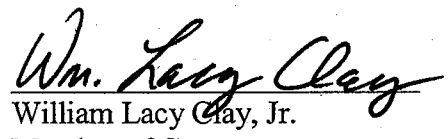

Mike Michaud
Member of Congress

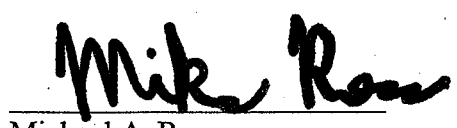

Thomas W. Osborne
Member of Congress

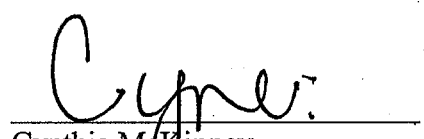

Todd R. Platts
Member of Congress



Mike Rogers
Member of Congress

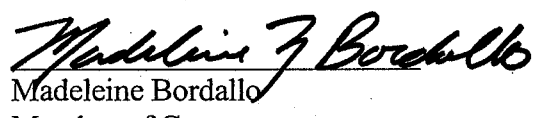

James R. Langevin
Member of Congress


William Lacy Clay, Jr.
Member of Congress


Michael A. Ross
Member of Congress


Cynthia McKinney
Member of Congress


Thomas M. Reynolds
Member of Congress


Madeleine Bordallo
Member of Congress

Mark Foley

Mark Foley
Member of Congress

Carolyn McCarthy

Carolyn McCarthy
Member of Congress

Richard R. Larsen

Richard R. Larsen
Member of Congress

Debbie Wasserman Schultz

Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress

Diane E. Watson

Diane E. Watson
Member of Congress

Luis G. Fortuno

Luis G. Fortuno
Member of Congress

Lloyd Doggett

Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress

Anna G. Eshoo

Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

Artur Davis

Artur Davis
Member of Congress

Robert Wexler

Robert Wexler
Member of Congress

Robert R. Simmons

Robert R. Simmons
Member of Congress

Jon Porter

Jon Porter
Member of Congress

John Barrow

John Barrow
Member of Congress

Stephen Lynch

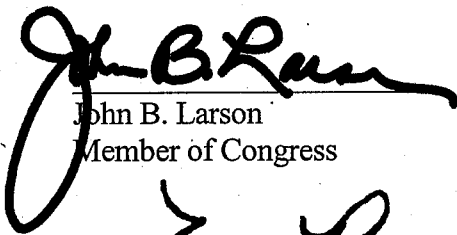
Stephen Lynch
Member of Congress

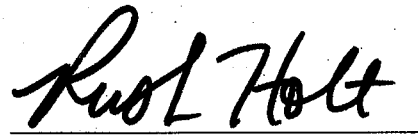
Harold E. Ford, Jr.

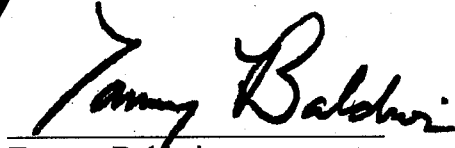
Harold E. Ford, Jr.
Member of Congress

Charles A. Gonzalez


Charles A. Gonzalez
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress

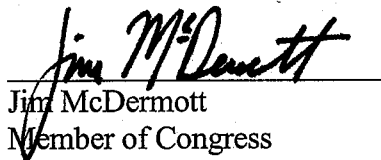

Rush Holt
Member of Congress

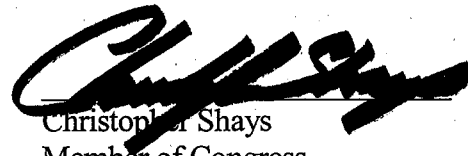

Tammy Baldwin
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

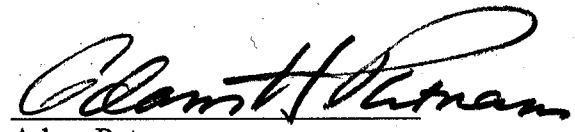

Betty McCollum
Member of Congress

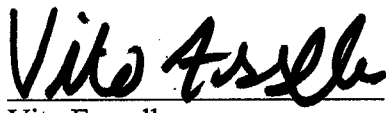

Ellen Tauscher
Member of Congress

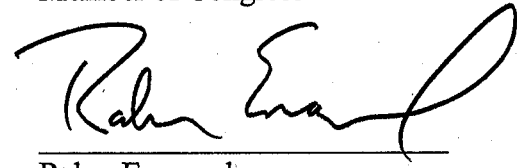

Jim McDermott
Member of Congress



Christopher Shays
Member of Congress

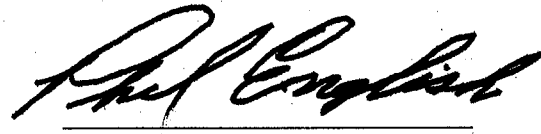

Tom Allen
Member of Congress

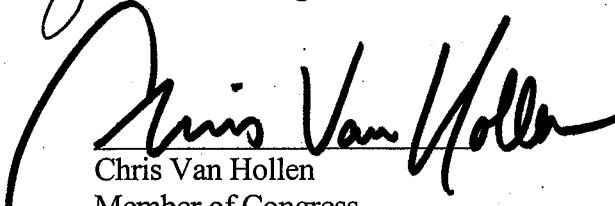

Adam Putnam
Member of Congress

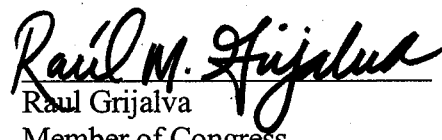

Vito Fossella
Member of Congress


Rahm Emanuel
Member of Congress


John Spratt
Member of Congress


Phil English
Member of Congress


Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress


Raul Grijalva
Member of Congress

Neil Abercrombie

Neil Abercrombie
Member of Congress

Ben Chandler

Ben Chandler
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis

Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

Diana DeGette

Diana DeGette
Member of Congress

Bob Etheridge

Bob Etheridge
Member of Congress

Geoff Davis

Geoff Davis
Member of Congress

C.A. Dutch Ruppensberger

C.A. Dutch Ruppensberger
Member of Congress

Emanuel Cleaver

Emanuel Cleaver
Member of Congress

Lois Capps

Lois Capps
Member of Congress

Michael M. Honda

Michael Honda
Member of Congress

Hilda L. Solis

Hilda Solis
Member of Congress

Dennis Moore

Dennis Moore
Member of Congress

Stephanie Tubbs Jones

Stephanie Tubbs Jones
Member of Congress

Brad Miller

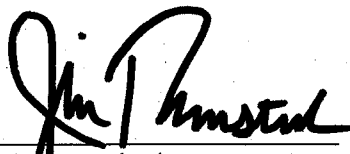
Brad Miller
Member of Congress

Henry Cuellar

Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress

Susan A. Davis

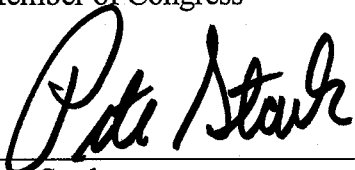
Susan Davis
Member of Congress



Jim Ramstad
Member of Congress



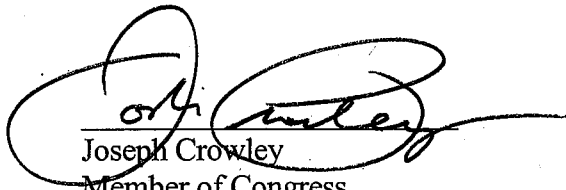
Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



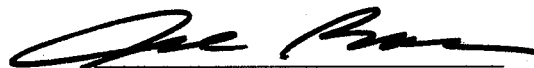
Pete Stark
Member of Congress



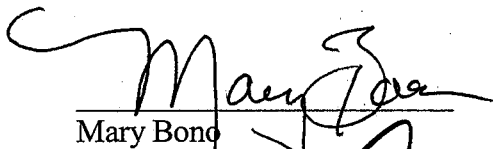
Jim Gerlach
Member of Congress



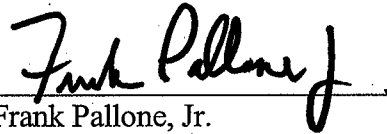
Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress



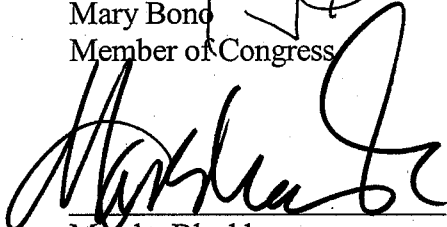
Joe Baca
Member of Congress



Mary Bond
Member of Congress



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



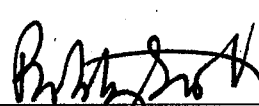
Marsha Blackburn
Member of Congress



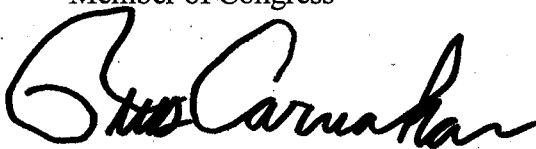
Barbara Cubin
Member of Congress



Anthony Weiner
Member of Congress



Robert C. Scott
Member of Congress



Russ Carnahan
Member of Congress



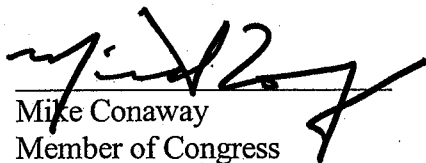
Jim Davis
Member of Congress



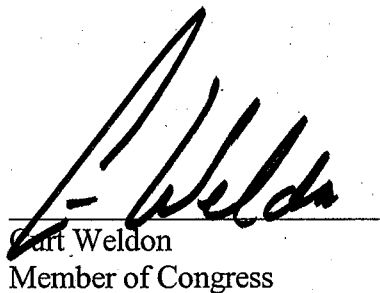
John Shimkus
Member of Congress



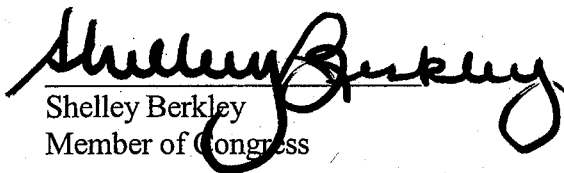
Ed Case
Member of Congress



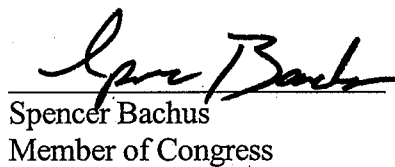
Mike Conaway
Member of Congress



Gert Weldon
Member of Congress



Shelley Berkley
Member of Congress



Spencer Bachus
Member of Congress