

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

October 9, 2009

The Honorable Robert Gates
Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Secretary Gates:

We seek your assistance in preserving the integrity of the defense acquisition process as it relates to the U.S. Army's Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV) competitive rebuy contract awarded by the Army on August 27, 2009, and formally protested to the General Accountability Office (GAO) by the losing bidders in September. Specifically, we are concerned with recent efforts, based on inaccurate and incomplete information, to publicly criticize the Army's contract award to Oshkosh Corporation, efforts that threaten to undermine the ongoing independent review and analysis of the GAO. We encourage you to ensure that the ongoing protest review process remains free from undue influence or outside interference.

Unfortunately and despite prohibitions on such interference, some appear to be attempting to influence the ongoing Government Accountability Office review of this award. While we firmly believe that the GAO protest of this program will be rejected as without merit, we are concerned with the blatant efforts to affect the outcome of this independent, quasi-judicial review by attempting to raise protest issues through a public media campaign and through improper contact with Department of Defense officials.

We are also concerned that some have gone so far as requesting that the Army provide highly confidential and sensitive source selection materials for their review. We believe this is both inappropriate and a dangerous precedent that could result in undue interference in the competitive process.

Finally, we believe the ongoing public relations campaign initiated by disappointed parties has disseminated a significant amount of incomplete and inaccurate information regarding the FMTV competition. Oshkosh Corporation is a strong, diverse company that has produced over 67,000 military vehicles for use by our armed forces, and is well situated to reliably serve the Department of Defense for decades to come. Oshkosh officials assure us that they have more than enough capacity to handle the anticipated FMTV production, as well as any surge production that might be required, with no impact on its existing contracts. In fact, the DOD scrutinized and confirmed Oshkosh's manufacturing capacity and capability in two separate reviews this year, during both the M-ATV and FMTV competitions. Over its 80-year history of manufacturing vehicles for the Department of Defense, Oshkosh and its highly-skilled union workforce has proven its capability to delivery quality products on schedule while keeping costs low to the government.

In order to ensure that the process goes forward in an unbiased manner, we know you will take steps to ensure the Department handles outside inquiries relating to the FMTV procurement decision, including requests for sensitive source selection materials, in strict compliance with the law,

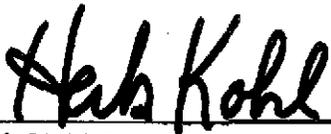
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particularly while the GAO conducts its review of the protests. We request that you provide the undersigned with a complete copy of all materials provided to other Members of Congress relating to the FMTV competition as well as the opportunity to receive the same briefings that are provided to other Member offices, including Committee briefings.

We are especially proud of our constituent's long history of supporting our men and women in uniform and ensuring they receive the best equipment available. We appreciate your efforts to ensure the FMTV procurement and protest review process is handled in a professional manner. We look forward to working with you on this matter.

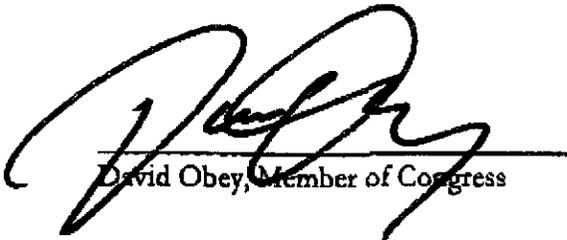
Sincerely,



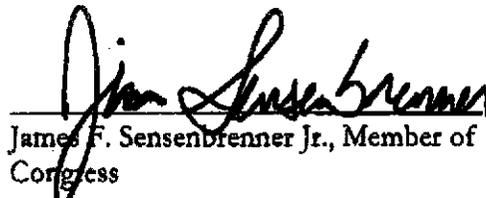
Herb Kohl, U.S. Senator



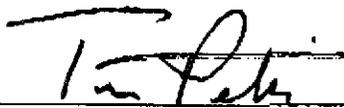
Russ Feingold, U.S. Senator



David Obey, Member of Congress



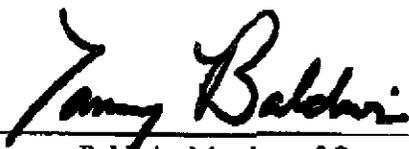
James F. Sensenbrenner Jr., Member of Congress



Tom Petri, Member of Congress



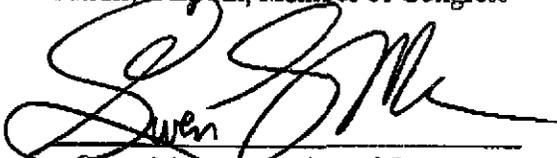
Ron Kind, Member of Congress



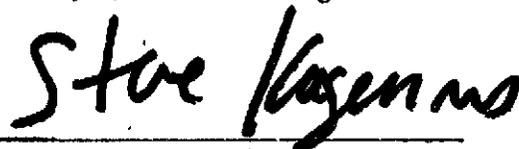
Tammy Baldwin, Member of Congress



Paul Ryan, Member of Congress



Gwen Moore, Member of Congress



Steve Kagen, M.D.

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 20, 2012

The Honorable Leon E. Panetta
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-1000

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We are writing to express our concern over the future of the U.S. combat vehicle industrial base.

The Defense Strategic Guidance you unveiled in January calls for significant reductions in the armed forces, especially in the Army and Marine Corps, as well as sacrifices in investment programs. Regarding the U.S. industrial base, the guidance calls for protecting critical industries as the nation adapts to the new defense posture. You and your leadership team have referenced tactical aviation and shipbuilding as just two industries that require continuous national support to remain viable.

However, the strategy neglects the U.S. combat vehicle industrial base. The combat vehicle industrial base is a unique asset that consists of hundreds of public and private facilities across the United States. Despite this, the FY 2013 President's Budget request proposes to terminate U.S. tank production for the first time since before World War II.

The Army specifically proposes to shut down the tank industrial base and then reconstitute it in 2017 to produce further upgrades to the M1 Abrams tank as well as the new Ground Combat Vehicle. While international sales opportunities for Abrams appear stronger than prior years, they are inadequate to sustain the industrial base and in some cases uncertain. In light of this, modest and continued Abrams production for the Army is necessary to preserve the industrial base.

Another important tenet of the Defense Strategic Guidance notes that because the future Army and Marine Corps will be smaller and leaner, they must retain the quality and capability that will allow them to fight and win on future battlefields. Indeed, to quote Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Martin Dempsey, "capability is more important than size." We agree. To that end, we support the continued production of the M1A2 SEP tank, which is the world's most capable tank featuring survivability and seamless connection to the digital network and of far higher quality than the older M1A1 Abrams tank.

The debate over the fate of the U.S. combat vehicle industrial base is not new. The Congress in bipartisan fashion supported additional tank upgrades in the FY 2012 Defense Authorization and Appropriations Acts to forestall shutdown of the industrial



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base into 2014. Despite this support and the emphasis on maintaining the health of the industrial base in the Strategic Guidance, the Army continues to stand by its decision to shutter U.S. tank production.

We ask that you work with the Congress to sustain U.S. tank production in the FY 2013 budget. Thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to this nation.

Sincerely,

Sandy Levin

Mark Ryan (OC)

Candice S. Miller

Marcy Kaptur

Jim Sewell

Jill Joch

Michael R. Jensen

T. H. Lee

Norm Dicks

John Dingell

Mike Rogers

Peter J. Vucelja

Tom Saltonstall

Bob Bonner

Carl E. Under

Mike M. Antyger

Glenn Emerson

Jim Mann

~~Art R.~~

Mac Jb

John B. Adams

Walter B. Jones

Jeff Miller

Nick Koball

J. Rody Forbes

Eel Pasten

John Wornen

Robert E. H.

Stan Nott

Dave Lusk

Jane Curry

C.A. Ditch Ruppberg

Ed Boston

Ed Get

Howard Loble

Leis Cupps

Jerry Lawrence

Joe Wilson

Pete Serrano

James Baker

T. Melton (MI-11)

Elijah Jennings

Bob Goodlette

Paul Mangler

~~Colic Allen~~

Robert F. Watts

Corine Brown

Mike Simpson

Butterfield

Casey McCoy

J. Dwyer

Hansen Clarke

James P. Smith

Ken E. Jace

Bob With

Midland

Tim Ryan

Peter Welch

John Rooney

Aeneas S. Ellmers

Ailly Long

Five Flow

Rail M. Lijabra

David J. Kelly

Hunt

Kim B. Ryan

Betty Sutton

McBrooke

M/S T

Adolf Dunder

Ernst Sivers

Doris Noren

Maria Odege

Vicky Hartzler

Leonard L. Sewell

Yveth J. Clarke

Lynna Jenkins

Geoff Jarvis

J. Wayne Goff

Doris Schuch

De H. G.

Carl G.

Frank C. Meant

Mire Copeland

Mr. J. R. C.

W. R. G.

Bennie Thompson

Joe Bana

Steve Cuth

Jim McInerney

Joe Joe

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Bill Owens

Frank Kelly

Pat

Matt Kelly

John R Carter

Tom Marino

D. D.

Paul A. McE

Alvin Polyzos

Bill Shuster

Leiv Yach

Pat Titus

Joe Heck

Bill Johnson

Bob Mittle

Wim R. Kew

Ventura

Ti Z

Wheeler

John Vogel

Aaron Ged

Ja Walsh

Mike Doyle

Doug Lambert

Paul A. Horan

Lou Barletta

Michael A. Grimm

John P. Meacham

Don Bensch

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Frank P. Banks

Samuel D. B. Lyne

Di Coe

Steve Israel

Joan Schmitt

Steve Abbott

Bliss Smith

James Costello

Mr. R. W.

John L. Bonds

K. M. Pitt Long

Frank R. Clark

Brian Hogen

Billy Haly

Joe Courtney

E. Paulson

Sandy Adams

Jeff Am 50-03

Tom Scott

Milly R. Tompeo

Peter Prokarn

Mary Bond Mack

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Lin M...

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Mike Kelly

Aube Cufun

Leonard Lence

Ana...

Joe Long

Rosa DeLauro

Ta...

Sam Johnson

Bill Higgins

Harold Johnson

Ed Felt

Paul Marie Buckle

Ernie Bulley

Allen B. West

Blaine Jeffrey

Stan Womack

Larry Knull

Nugoy Walker

John Callison

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Fred D. Lewis

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	Allen West	FL-22	Frank Lucas	OK-03
Blaine Luetkemeyer	MO-09			

MARK POCAN
2ND DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

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UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

November 13, 2013

The Honorable Charles T. Hagel
U.S. Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Hagel,

As you consider full proposals for the Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation (DMDI) Institute, we write to express our support for the Digital Lab for Manufacturing (Digital Lab), a proposal led by UI LABS, an independent, nonprofit organization based in Chicago that includes University of Wisconsin-Madison.

In response to DOD's call for a national institute to focus on complex issues in manufacturing, UI LABS developed a Digital Lab consortium that includes the nation's premier engineering schools, the country's leading defense and commercial manufacturers, the world's most powerful supercomputer, and nationally-recognized educational and business development partners. This team is uniquely positioned to develop solutions that leverage digital technology to accelerate the design to production timeline, reducing costs and offsetting risks for the U.S. manufacturing base. This applied research will create jobs in advanced manufacturing fields and make the US economy more competitive.

The team is industry driven and sustainable in the long term with commitments from defense and commercial manufacturers including General Electric, Lockheed Martin, Rolls-Royce, Procter & Gamble, Siemens, Dassault Systèmes, Boeing, Caterpillar, John Deere, General Dynamics and hundreds of small businesses. The Digital Lab's research and state partners are regionally anchored in the Midwest, spanning Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Missouri, and Nebraska. Additionally, the team includes world-class partners from beyond the Midwest including Texas, Colorado, New York and Oregon to leverage the best research and technology in the country and deploy solutions on a broad scale. Together commitments from the team's partners exceed \$200 million, nearly tripling the commitment of the federal government.



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The Midwest-based Digital lab is uniquely positioned to bring transformational returns on the federal government's research and development investment, unlocking billions in value for American manufacturers, expanding access to new technology and opportunity for small manufacturers and creating high-wage, high-skilled jobs for American workers.

For these reasons, we ask that you give the Digital Lab proposal full consideration.

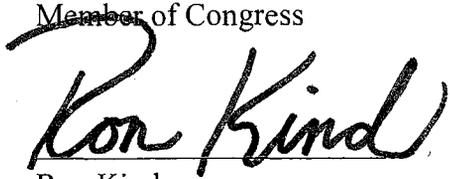
Respectfully,



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



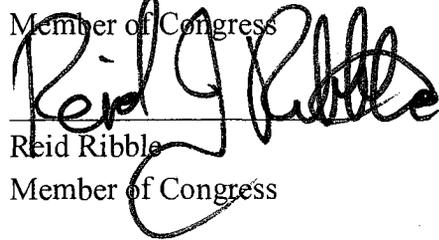
Tom Petri
Member of Congress



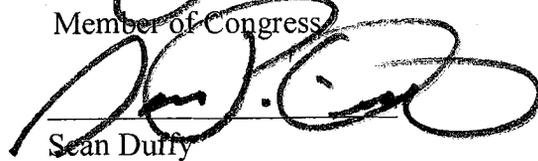
Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



Reid Ribble
Member of Congress



Sean Duffy
Member of Congress

NICK J. RAHALL, II
3RD DISTRICT, WEST VIRGINIA

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE
RANKING MEMBER

www.rahall.house.gov

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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(304) 325-6222

220 PINNAC STREET
LEONARD, WV 25501
(304) 252-4934

December 13, 2013

The Honorable Chuck Hagel
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Hagel:

As you consider the Fiscal Year 2015 Army budget proposal, we urge you to preserve the force structure and end strength of the Army National Guard and to leverage the operational reserve to increase cost-savings in the Total Army.

We understand that your soon-to-be-completed budget review is focused on rebalancing active and reserve forces in our Nation's long-term military strategy, which is commendable. With the operational reserve being rebuilt since September 11, 2001, this generation of Army National Guardsmen and Reservists has proven every bit as effective, committed, and capable as their active counterparts.

We believe that significant end strength and force structure cuts can be mitigated by better utilizing the Reserve Component, which would save money while sustaining defense capacity and capability. Blending Active and Reserve Component Army units, as the Air Force has begun to do with its Active Associate program, could ensure long-term budgetary savings to maintain a robust Total Army. As your Reserve Forces Policy Board (RFPB) recently noted, a blended Total Army composition means more combat capability at about one-third the cost.

Alternate cost-savings proposals under consideration that would reduce the Army National Guard to 315,000 soldiers – 35,000 fewer soldiers than pre-9/11 levels – are deeply troubling, especially considering the Army National Guard is the most cost-effective dual use force available. Knowing such draconian cuts alone may not be enough if the budget sequester continues and military personnel costs double, as projected, by 2025, we are convinced that end strength reductions in the Reserve Component are not a practical or long-term solution to ensuring our Nation's security in an era of fiscal restraints. As you are aware, Congress last year rightly rejected similar proposals that reduced end strength and force structure for the Air National Guard.

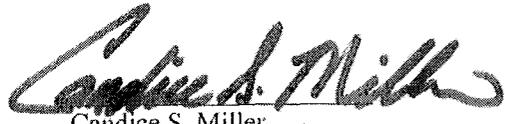
We strongly encourage you to avert a large end strength reduction that would inhibit our Army's ability to respond to world events and domestic emergencies. We look forward to reviewing your final decision, which we understand will be issued in the next several weeks, and to working with you to ensure a robust future Total Army.



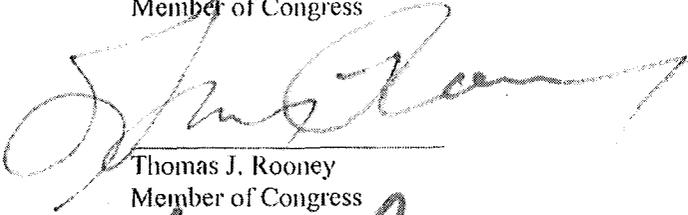
Sincerely,



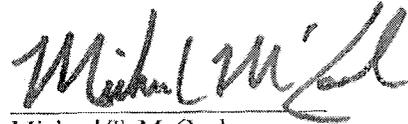
Nick J. Rahall, II
Member of Congress



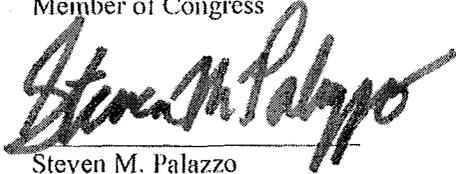
Candice S. Miller
Member of Congress



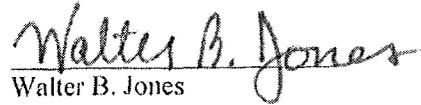
Thomas J. Rooney
Member of Congress



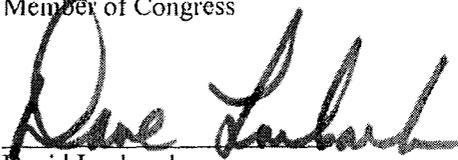
Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress



Steven M. Palazzo
Member of Congress



Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress



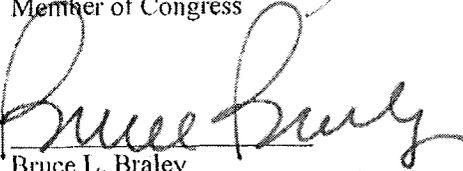
David Loebsack
Member of Congress



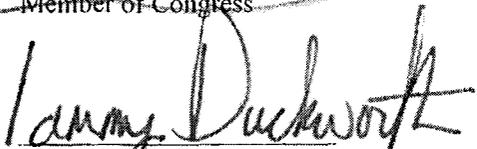
Steve King
Member of Congress



John L. Mica
Member of Congress



Bruce L. Braley
Member of Congress



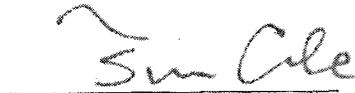
Tammy Duckworth
Member of Congress



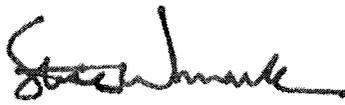
Tim Griffin
Member of Congress



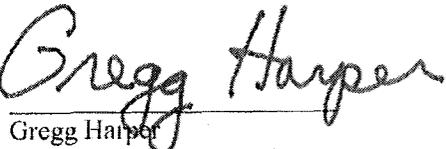
Don Young
Member of Congress



Tom Cole
Member of Congress



Steve Womack
Member of Congress



Gregg Harper
Member of Congress



Steve Stivers
Member of Congress



Joe Barton
Member of Congress



Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress



Kevin Cramer
Member of Congress



David B. McKinley
Member of Congress



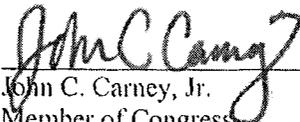
Andy Barr
Member of Congress



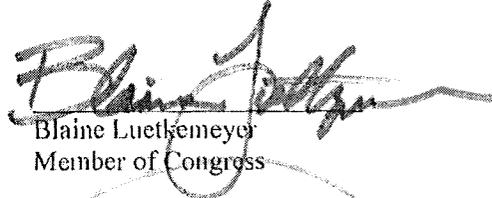
Colleen W. Hanabusa
Member of Congress



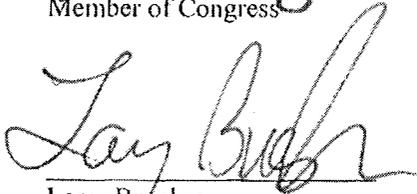
Stephen Lee Fincher
Member of Congress



John C. Carney, Jr.
Member of Congress



Blaine Luetkemeyer
Member of Congress



Larry Bueshon
Member of Congress



Scott DesJarlais
Member of Congress



Blake Farenthold
Member of Congress



Tim Huelskamp
Member of Congress



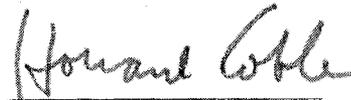
Gene Green
Member of Congress



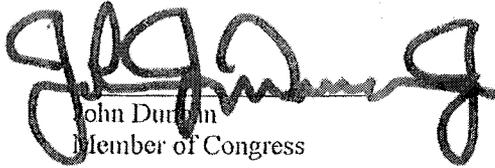
Charles W. Dent
Member of Congress



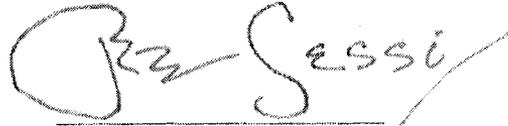
Corrine Brown
Member of Congress



Howard Coble
Member of Congress



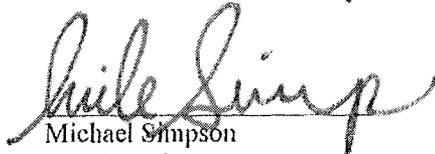
John Durbin
Member of Congress



Pete Sessions
Member of Congress



Hank Johnson
Member of Congress



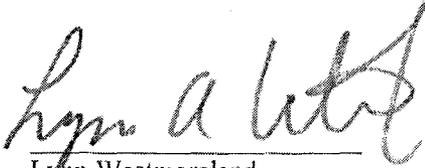
Michael Simpson
Member of Congress



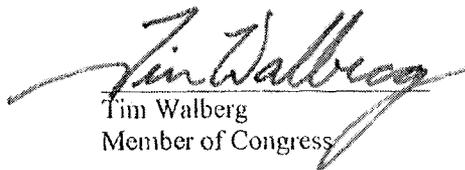
Mike McIntyre
Member of Congress



Michael Conaway
Member of Congress



Lynn Westmoreland
Member of Congress



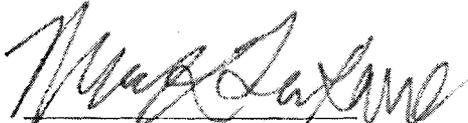
Tim Walberg
Member of Congress



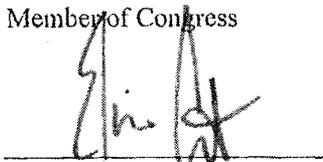
Jim Gerlach
Member of Congress



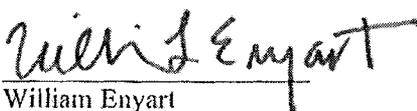
Robert Latta
Member of Congress



Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



William Enyart
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



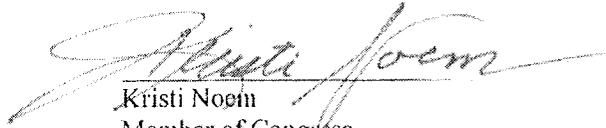
Sam Graves
Member of Congress



Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress



Carol Shea-Porter
Member of Congress



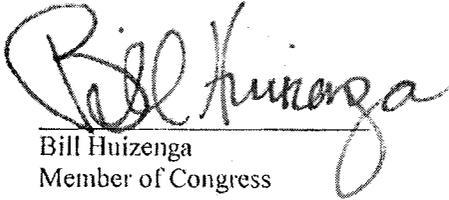
Kristi Noem
Member of Congress



Gary Peters
Member of Congress



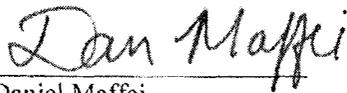
Billy Long
Member of Congress



Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress



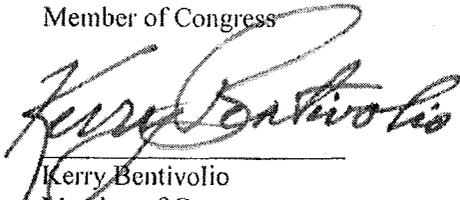
Dan Benishek
Member of Congress



Daniel Maffei
Member of Congress



Richard Hanna
Member of Congress



Kerry Bentivolio
Member of Congress



Pete Olson
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Annie Kuster
Member of Congress



James McGovern
Member of Congress



Brett Guthrie
Member of Congress



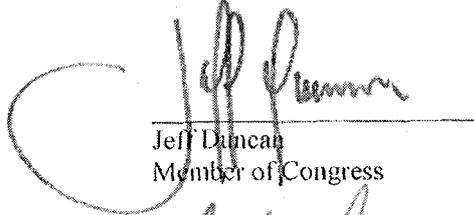
Pat Tiberi
Member of Congress



Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress



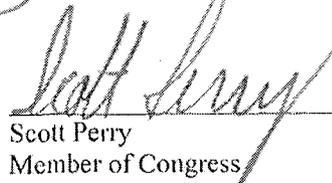
Cynthia Lummis
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Glenn Thompson
Member of Congress



Scott Perry
Member of Congress



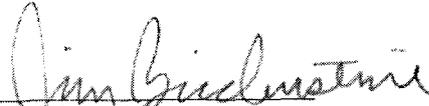
Erik Paulsen
Member of Congress



Frederica Wilson
Member of Congress



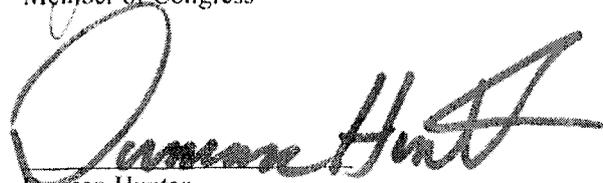
Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



Jim Bridenstine
Member of Congress



Marsha Blackburn
Member of Congress



Duncan Hunter
Member of Congress



Robert Pittenger
Member of Congress



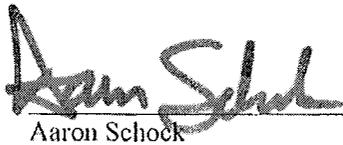
James Lankford
Member of Congress



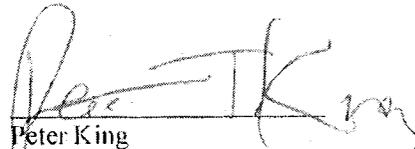
Thomas Massie
Member of Congress



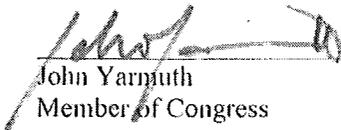
Tom Rice
Member of Congress



Aaron Schock
Member of Congress



Peter King
Member of Congress



John Yarmuth
Member of Congress

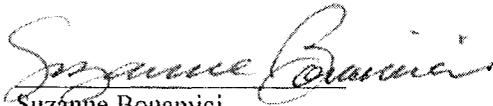


Tom Cotton
Member of Congress

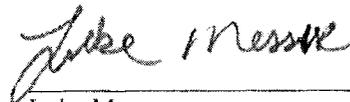
Ron DeSantis
Member of Congress



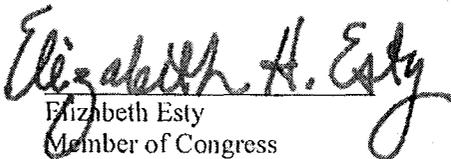
Richard Hudson
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



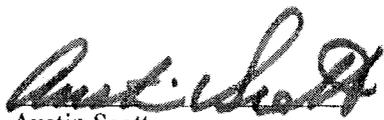
Luke Messer
Member of Congress



Elizabeth Esty
Member of Congress



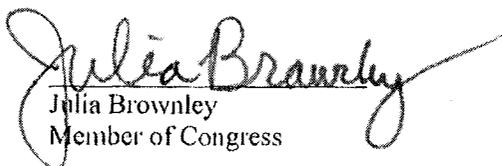
Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



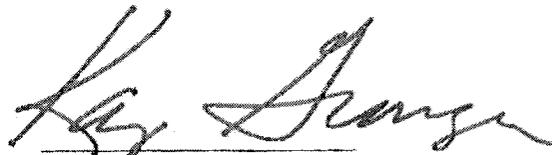
Austin Scott
Member of Congress



Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Kay Granger
Member of Congress



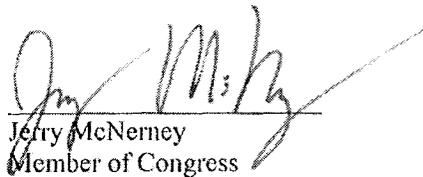
Bill Flores
Member of Congress



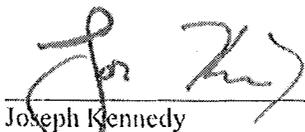
Timothy J. Walz
Member of Congress



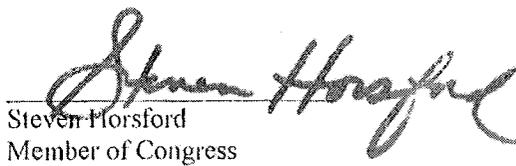
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



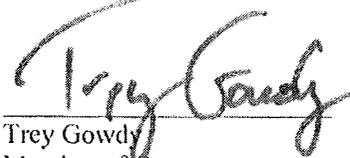
Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



Joseph Kennedy
Member of Congress



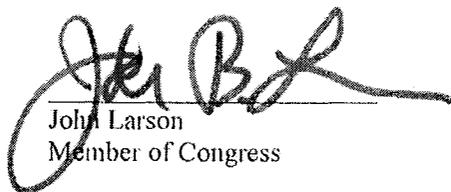
Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



Trey Gowdy
Member of Congress



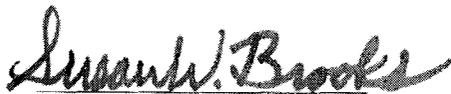
Alan Nunnelee
Member of Congress



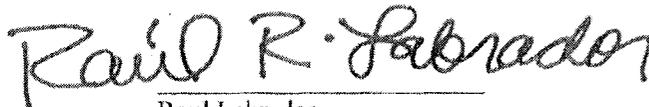
John Larson
Member of Congress



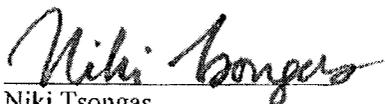
Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Susan Brooks
Member of Congress



Raul Labrador
Member of Congress



Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



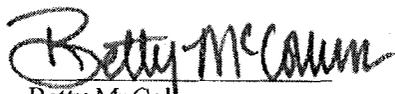
Grace Napolitano
Member of Congress



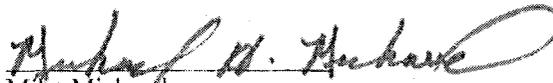
Gloria Negrete McLeod
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum
Member of Congress

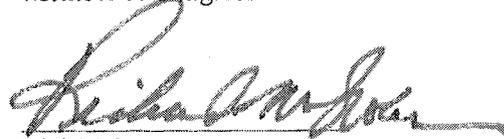


Mike Michaud
Member of Congress


Richard Nugent
Member of Congress

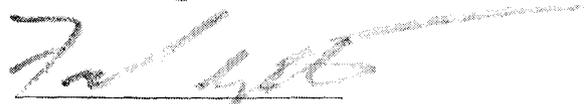

Marlin Stutzman
Member of Congress


Collin Peterson
Member of Congress

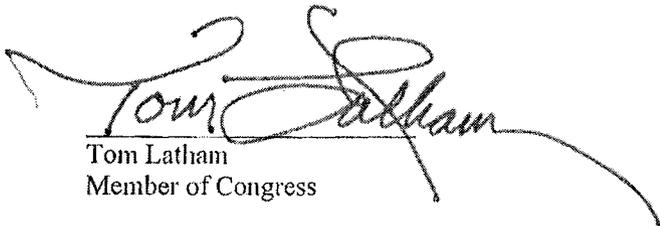

Rick Nolan
Member of Congress

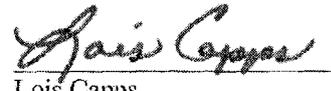

Danny Davis
Member of Congress

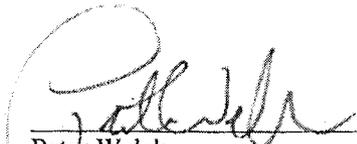

David Price
Member of Congress


Fred Upton
Member of Congress

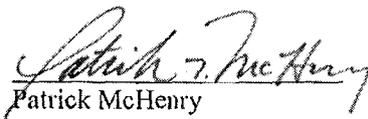

Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress

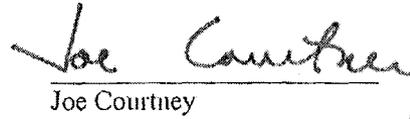

Tom Latham
Member of Congress

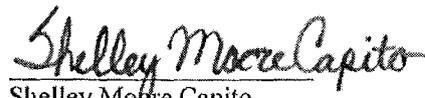

Lois Capps
Member of Congress


Peter Welch
Member of Congress


Gus Bilirakis
Member of Congress


Patrick McHenry
Member of Congress


Joe Courtney
Member of Congress


Shelley Moore Capito
Member of Congress


Rosa DeLauro
Member of Congress



C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger
Member of Congress



Michele Bachmann
Member of Congress



Paul Broun
Member of Congress



Mike Coffman
Member of Congress



Thomas Petri
Member of Congress



Steve Israel
Member of Congress



Diane Black
Member of Congress



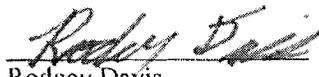
David Cicilline
Member of Congress



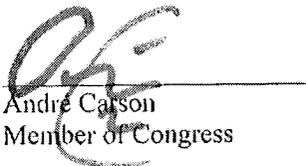
Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress



Marc Veasey
Member of Congress



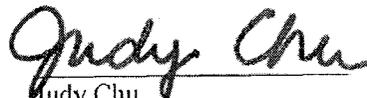
Rodney Davis
Member of Congress



Andre Carson
Member of Congress



Todd Rokita
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Cc: General Raymond T. Odierno
General Frank J. Grass