

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 10, 2023

Mr. Josep Borrell Fontelles  
EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy  
c/o Delegation of the European Union  
2175 K Street N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037

Dear High Representative Borrell,

We write to you today regarding the European Union's decision not to designate Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) as a terrorist organization. On January 18, the European Parliament voted 598 to 9 in favor of a measure calling for the EU to designate the IRGC as part of an annual foreign and security policy report and approved a separate Iran-focused resolution on January 19 reiterating this position on the IRGC. Following this vote however, you and your colleagues on the EU Foreign Affairs Council elected not to execute the designation.

Iran remains a leading state sponsor of terror. For decades, the IRGC has freely and openly carried out plots targeting citizens in countries across the EU. A recent study by the Combating Terrorism Center at West Point showed that in the last five years Iran has instigated at least 33 plots to surveil, abduct, or assassinate citizens in Europe.

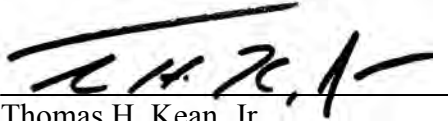
We understand the legal complexities involved in designating the IRGC as a terrorist organization pursuant to EU law Common Position 931, and fully appreciate the need for this decision to be adjudicated by either a judicial or "equivalent competent authority." But given the growing threat Iran poses to EU member states and their citizens, we urge you to treat this issue with the utmost urgency.

We believe there is an abundance of evidence available to the EU to provide the necessary basis for a terror designation of the IRGC, particularly given the European Court of Justice's ruling that investigations and prosecutions outside of the EU may be used as evidence to support additions to the terror list.

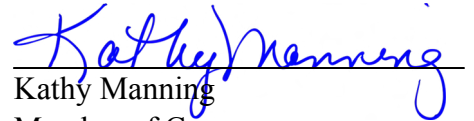
The IRGC has been implicated in, or could be linked to, numerous assassination plots both in and outside of the EU in recent years. Germany is currently pursuing prosecution against IRGC-linked individuals responsible for plotting attacks against synagogues in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia. Last year, an Iranian diplomat was convicted on terrorism charges in Belgium for his role in a 2018 plot against a gathering in Paris. In November, Britain's MI5 chief reported that there had been at least 10 kidnapping or assassination plots by the IRGC targeting U.K.-based persons since January 2022 alone; while authorities in Georgia said they foiled the IRGC's attempted assassination of an Israeli-Georgian businessman in Tbilisi that same month. In addition, the U.S. Department of Justice unsealed several indictments against IRGC personnel this year for murder-for-hire schemes targeting a former national security adviser and a former Secretary of State, among others. All such incidents appear to qualify as "terrorist acts" under EU law and thus we would argue admissible under Common Position 931.

We hope that in the upcoming meeting of the Foreign Affairs Council there will be due consideration on this very important and timely issue. For many years, the IRGC has supported and participated in numerous human rights abuses and terrorist activities, including the brutal crackdown of Iranian protestors following the murder of Mahsa Amini, the attempted assassination of European citizens, and the provision of hundreds of lethal drones to Russia. We strongly urge you, and your foreign affairs ministerial colleagues, to make the decision to fully sanction, penalize and delegitimize the IRGC, to help prevent them from further threatening democracy & freedom in the United States, Europe, and around the world.

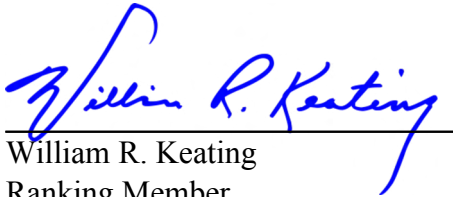
Sincerely,



Thomas H. Kean, Jr.  
Chairman  
House Foreign Affairs  
Subcommittee on Europe



Kathy Manning  
Member of Congress



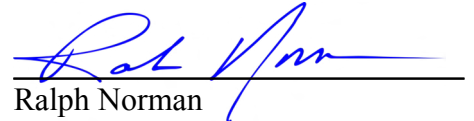
William R. Keating  
Ranking Member  
House Foreign Affairs  
Subcommittee on Europe




Michael T. McCaul  
Chairman  
House Foreign Affairs Committee



Claudia Tenney  
Member of Congress



Ralph Norman  
Member of Congress



Pat Fallon  
Member of Congress



Earl L. "Buddy" Carter  
Member of Congress



David Rouzer  
Member of Congress



Andy Kim  
Member of Congress



Michael Waltz  
Member of Congress



Mark E. Green, MD  
Member of Congress



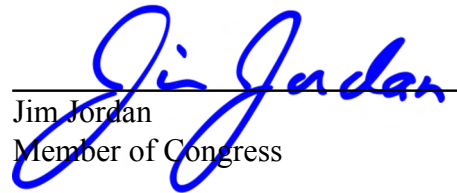
Jared Moskowitz  
Member of Congress



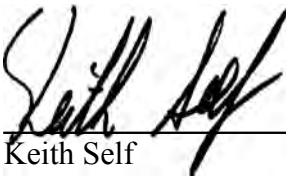
Doug LaMalfa  
Member of Congress



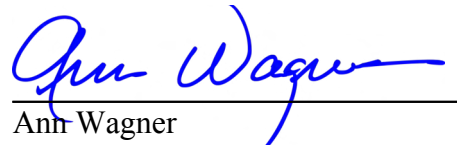
Michael V. Lawler  
Member of Congress



Jim Jordan  
Member of Congress



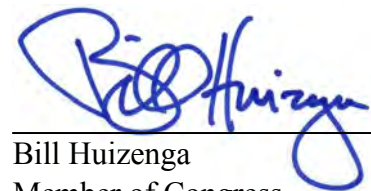
Keith Self  
Member of Congress



Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson  
Member of Congress

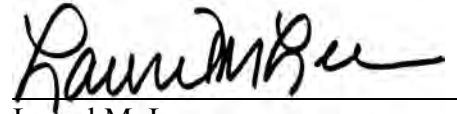


Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress



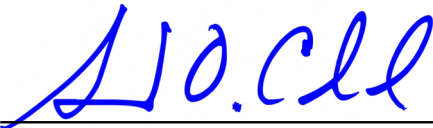
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Nathaniel Moran  
Member of Congress



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Laurel M. Lee  
Member of Congress



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Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



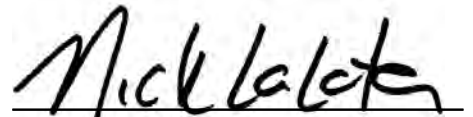
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Andrew R. Garbarino  
Member of Congress



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Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



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Nick LaLota  
Member of Congress



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Rich McCormick, MD, MBA  
Member of Congress



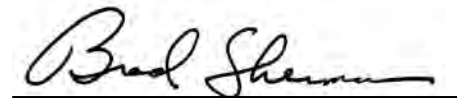
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Jefferson Van Drew  
Member of Congress



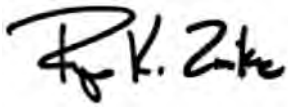
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Tim Burchett  
Member of Congress



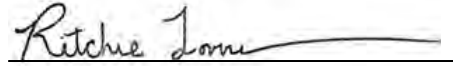
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Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



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Ryan K. Zinke  
Member of Congress



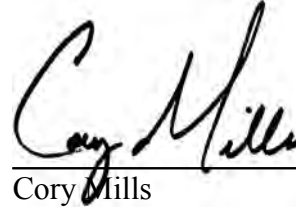
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Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



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Donald G. Davis  
Member of Congress



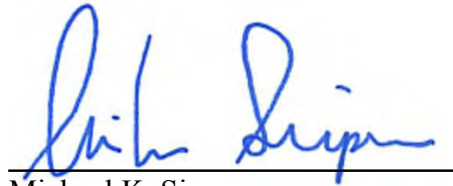
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Cory Mills  
Member of Congress



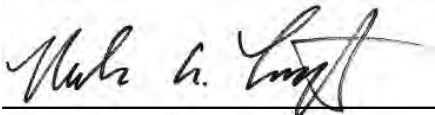
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Kelly Armstrong  
Member of Congress



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Michael K. Simpson  
Member of Congress



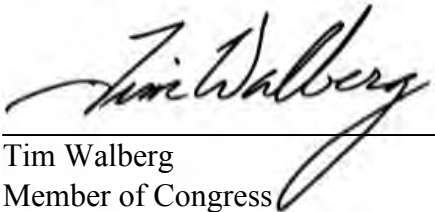
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Nicholas A. Langworthy  
Member of Congress



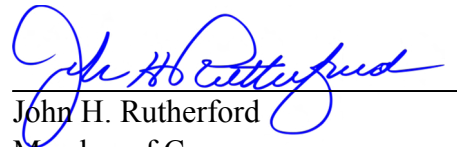
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Maria Elvira Salazar  
Member of Congress



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Tim Walberg  
Member of Congress




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John H. Rutherford  
Member of Congress



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Wiley Nickel  
Member of Congress



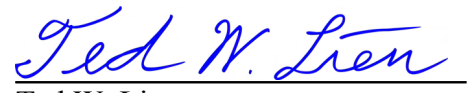
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Christopher H. Smith  
Member of Congress




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Patrick K. Ryan  
Member of Congress



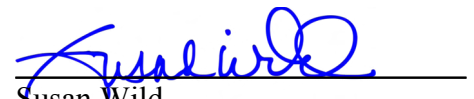
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Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress




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Russell Fry  
Member of Congress



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Susan Wild  
Member of Congress




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Steve Womack  
Member of Congress




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Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



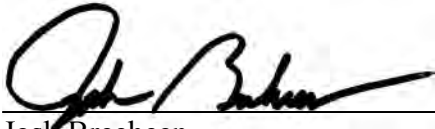
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Ronny L. Jackson  
Member of Congress

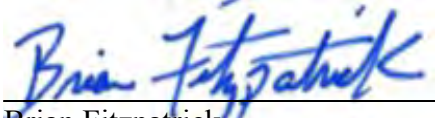


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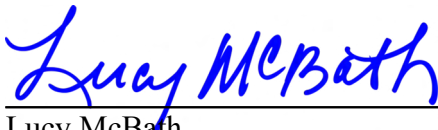
Marcus J. Molinaro  
Member of Congress



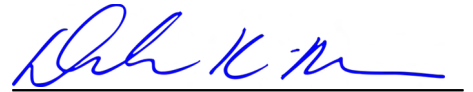
Josh Brecheen  
Member of Congress



Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



Lucy McBath  
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



Jake LaTurner  
Member of Congress



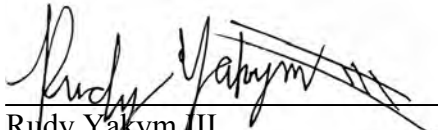
Tony Gonzales  
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress




Greg Pence  
Member of Congress



Rudy Yakym  
Member of Congress




Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress



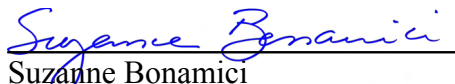
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Andy Barr  
Member of Congress




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Mark Alford  
Member of Congress



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Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress




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Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress




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Katie Porter  
Member of Congress




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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress




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Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress




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Jake Auchincloss  
Member of Congress



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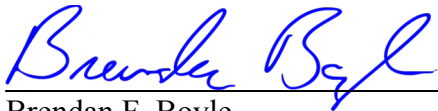
David J. Trone  
Member of Congress



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Joseph D. Morelle  
Member of Congress

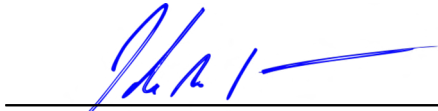




Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress



John R. Curtis  
Member of Congress



C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger  
Member of Congress



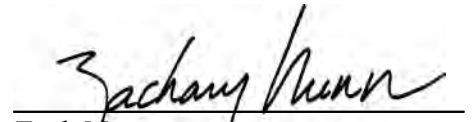
Guy Reschenthaler  
Member of Congress



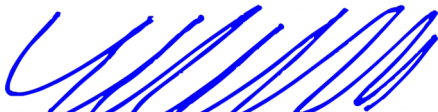
Chris Deluzio  
Member of Congress



Matt Cartwright  
Member of Congress



Zach Nunn  
Member of Congress



Mike Garcia  
Member of Congress



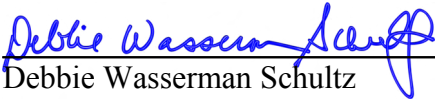
Andy Harris, M.D.  
Member of Congress



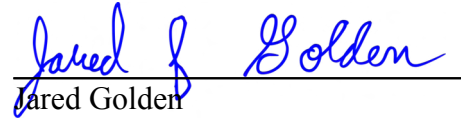
Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



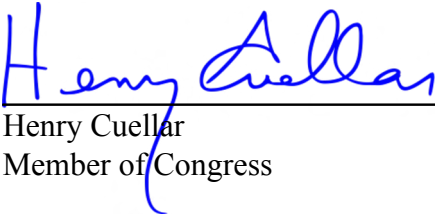
Ed Case  
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



Jared Golden  
Member of Congress



Henry Cuellar  
Member of Congress



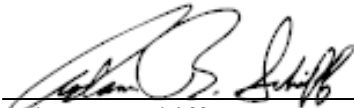
Brandon Williams  
Member of Congress



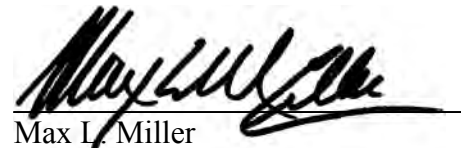
Scott Perry  
Member of Congress



Susie Lee  
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress

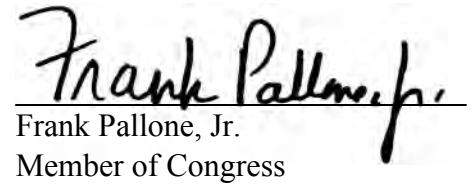


Max L. Miller  
Member of Congress



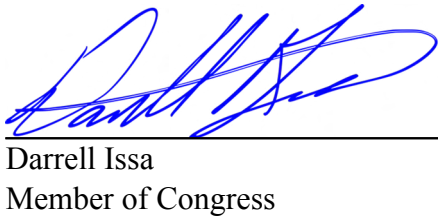
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Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



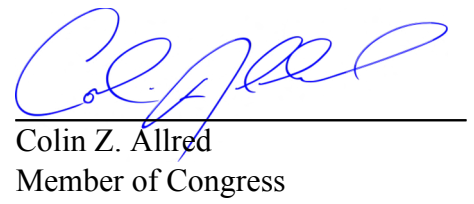
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Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress



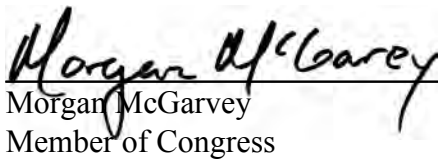
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Darrell Issa  
Member of Congress



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Colin Z. Allred  
Member of Congress



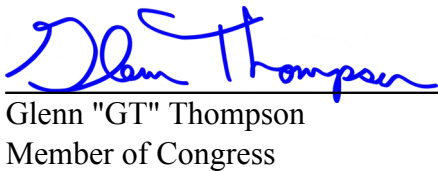
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Morgan McGarvey  
Member of Congress




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Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



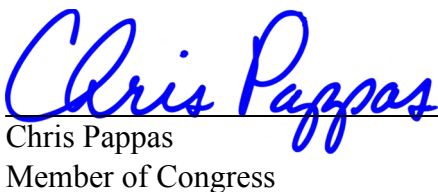
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Glenn "GT" Thompson  
Member of Congress



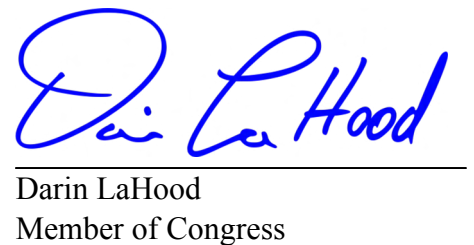
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Barry Loudermilk  
Member of Congress



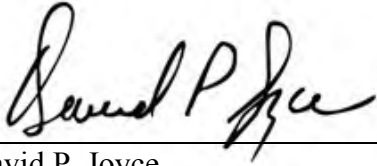
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Chris Pappas  
Member of Congress

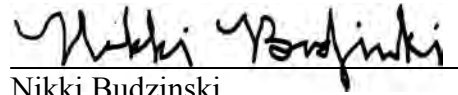


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Darin LaHood  
Member of Congress



David P. Joyce  
Member of Congress



Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



James Comer  
Member of Congress



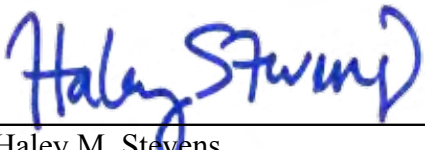
Anthony D'Esposito  
Member of Congress



Diana Harshbarger  
Member of Congress



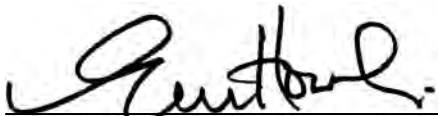
Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



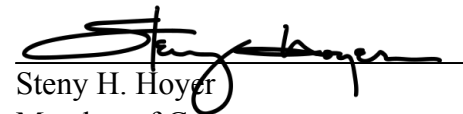
Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress



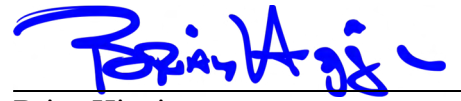
Erin Houchin  
Member of Congress



Steny H. Hoyer  
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman  
Member of Congress



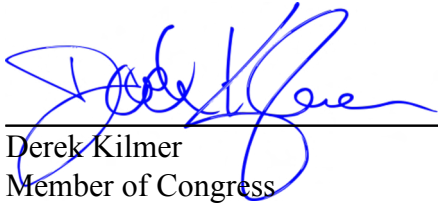
Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress



Robert J. Menendez  
Member of Congress



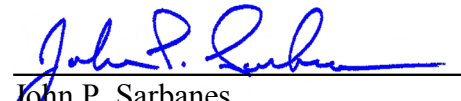
Derek Kilmer  
Member of Congress



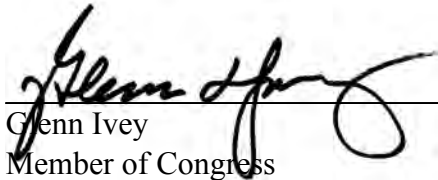
Julia Letlow  
Member of Congress



Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress



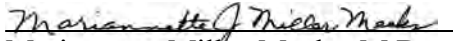
John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress

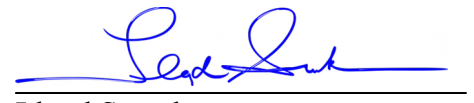



Glenn Ivey  
Member of Congress




Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress


  
Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.  
Member of Congress


  
Lloyd Smucker  
Member of Congress


  
Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress


  
Ken Buck  
Member of Congress

  
Nancy Mace  
Member of Congress

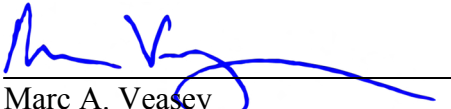
  
Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress

  
Jeff Jackson  
Member of Congress

  
Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress

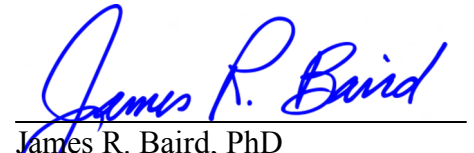
  
Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress

  
Young Kim  
Member of Congress



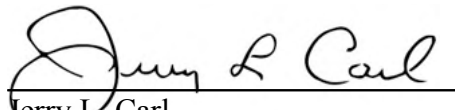
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Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



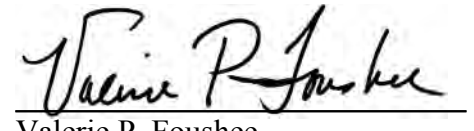
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James R. Baird, PhD  
Member of Congress



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Jerry L. Carl  
Member of Congress



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Valerie P. Foushee  
Member of Congress



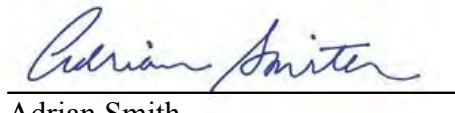
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Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



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Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



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Adrian Smith  
Member of Congress



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John R. Moolenaar  
Member of Congress