

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 5, 2011

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to urge you immediately to implement additional sanctions on the Syrian regime of Bashar al-Assad. We appreciate the measures you have taken to date—including imposing sanctions on al-Assad, his family, and his associates—but we believe it is time to significantly increase pressure on the regime. No government should be allowed to inflict such suffering on its people without a stern response from the United States and from the broader international community.

Specifically, we request that you implement a number of key sanctions outlined in P.L. 108-175, the Syria Accountability & Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act of 2003. As required under this law, President George W. Bush implemented two of the available sanctions—a ban on exports to Syria other than food and medicine and a ban on Syrian aircraft landing in or overflying the United States.

We are pleased that you have maintained these sanctions, but we believe the time has come for implementation of further sanctions under the Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act, specifically:

- Section 5(a)(2)(B)—a prohibition on United States businesses from operating in Syria; and
- Section 5(a)(2)(F)—blocking transactions in any property in which the Government of Syria has any interest, by any person, or with respect to any property, subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

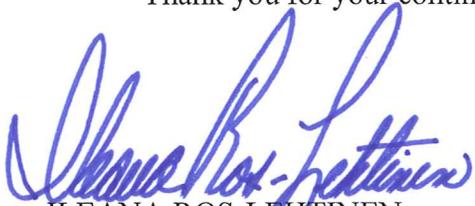
Additionally, we urge the application of the full range of Iran, North Korea and Syria Nonproliferation Act sanctions on any foreign entity that knowingly transfers to Syria goods, services, or technology that materially contribute to Syria's efforts to develop nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons, or ballistic or cruise missile systems. Finally, we also request that you identify and implement additional sanctions to send a clear message to the Syrian government that it cannot murder civilians with impunity.

We share your concern for the Syrian government's unconscionable brutality and violence in response to calls for real political reform. According to available figures, almost 2000 Syrians have lost their lives and thousands more have been injured. In addition, thousands of refugees have fled to Turkey.

The Syrian people deserve a government that represents their aspirations and respects their basic human rights. It is clear that Bashar al-Assad is not willing to implement genuine reforms and that he lacks legitimacy to lead the Syrian people. As such, the United States and all responsible nations must hold the regime accountable, and pressure them to end the brutality. Implementing additional sanctions would show the Syrian people that we stand with them in their struggle for democratic freedoms, while also making it clear to the Syrian regime that it will pay an increasing cost for its gross violations of human rights and dignity.

Thank you for your continuing concern, and we look forward to your response.

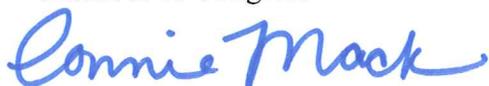
Sincerely,



ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
Member of Congress



HOWARD L. BERMAN
Member of Congress



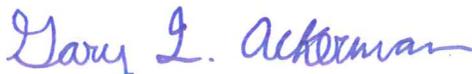
CONNIE MACK
Member of Congress



ELIOT L. ENGEL
Member of Congress



STEVE CHABOT
Member of Congress



GARY L. ACKERMAN
Member of Congress



RODNEY ALEXANDER
Member of Congress



JASON ALTMIRE
Member of Congress



ROBERT E. ANDREWS
Member of Congress



STEVE AUSTRIA
Member of Congress



JOHN BARROW
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ROSCOE BARTLETT
Member of Congress



CHARLES F. BASS
Member of Congress



SHELLEY BERKLEY
Member of Congress



BRIAN P. BILBRAY
Member of Congress



JO BONNER
Member of Congress



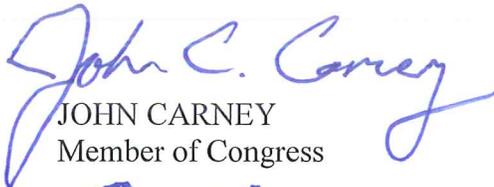
ROBERT BRADY
Member of Congress



KEN CALVERT
Member of Congress



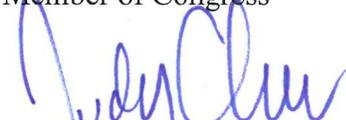
SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO
Member of Congress



JOHN CARNEY
Member of Congress



JASON CHAFFETZ
Member of Congress



JUDY CHU
Member of Congress



HOWARD COBLE
Member of Congress



ROB BISHOP
Member of Congress



DAN BOREN
Member of Congress



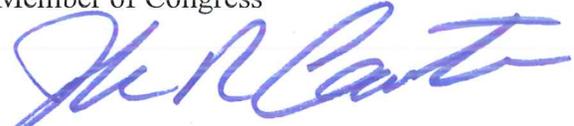
VERN BUCHANAN
Member of Congress



FRANCISCO CANSECO
Member of Congress



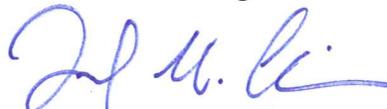
MICHAEL E. CAPUANO
Member of Congress



JOHN CARTER
Member of Congress



BEN CHANDLER
Member of Congress



DAVID CICILLINE
Member of Congress



K. MICHAEL CONAWAY
Member of Congress


GERALD E. CONNOLLY
Member of Congress


JIM COSTA
Member of Congress

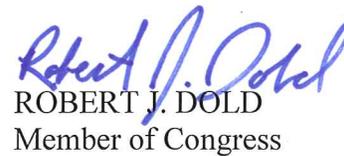

JOSEPH CROWLEY
Member of Congress

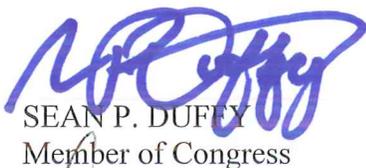

JOHN CULBERSON
Member of Congress

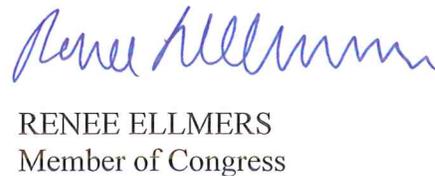

ROSA L. DeLAURO
Member of Congress

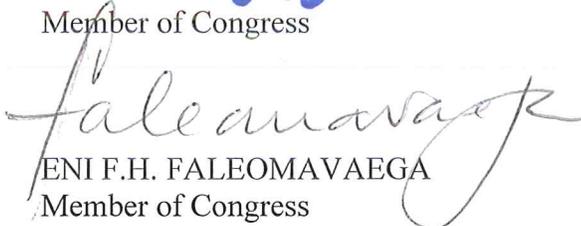

TED DEUTCH
Member of Congress


MARIO DIAZ-BALART
Member of Congress


ROBERT J. DOLD
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SEAN P. DUFFY
Member of Congress

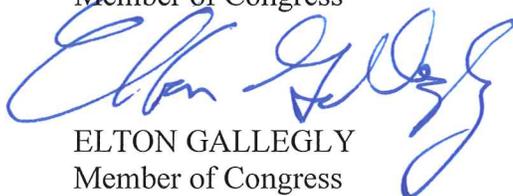

RENEE ELLMERS
Member of Congress


ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA
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BOB FILNER
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BARNEY FRANK
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GENE GREEN
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JIM GERLACH
Member of Congress



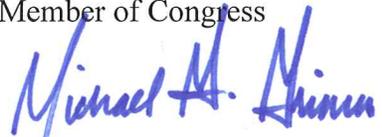
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COLLEEN HANABUSA
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RICHARD HANNA
Member of Congress



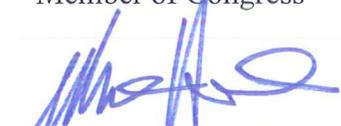
ANDY HARRIS
Member of Congress



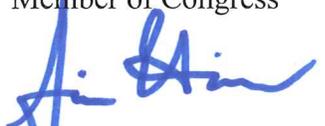
VICKY HARTZLER
Member of Congress



NAN HAYWORTH
Member of Congress



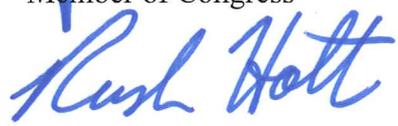
MARTIN T. HEINRICH
Member of Congress



JIM HIMES
Member of Congress



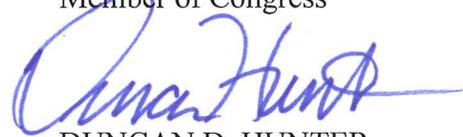
MAZIE K. HIRONO
Member of Congress



RUSH HOLT
Member of Congress



RANDY HULTGREN
Member of Congress



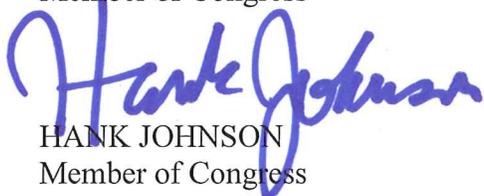
DUNCAN D. HUNTER
Member of Congress



STEVE ISRAEL
Member of Congress



LYNN JENKINS
Member of Congress



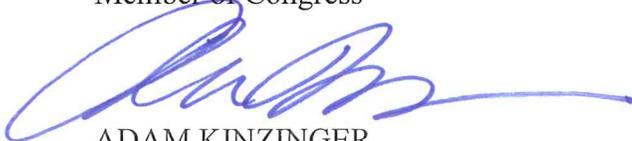
HANK JOHNSON
Member of Congress



WILLIAM R. KEATING
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RON KIND
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ADAM KINZINGER
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JOHN KLINE
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JEFF LANDRY
Member of Congress



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FRANK A. LoBIONDO
Member of Congress



BILL JOHNSON
Member of Congress



SAM JOHNSON
Member of Congress



MIKE KELLY
Member of Congress



PETER T. KING
Member of Congress



LARRY KISSELL
Member of Congress



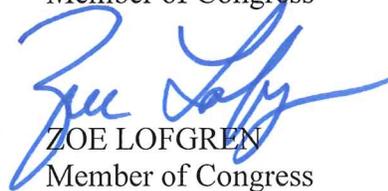
LEONARD LANCE
Member of Congress



JIM LANGEVIN
Member of Congress



BARBARA LEE
Member of Congress



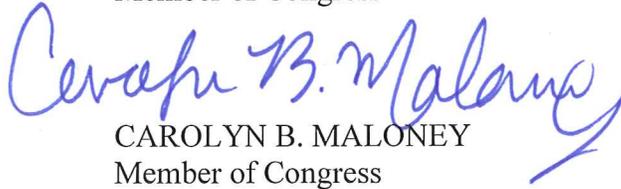
ZOE LOFGREN
Member of Congress


BILLY LONG
Member of Congress

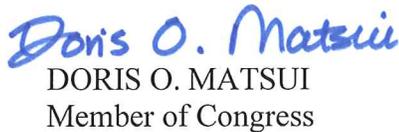

NITA M. LOWEY
Member of Congress

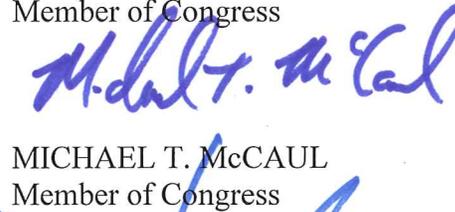

BLAINE LUETKEMEYER
Member of Congress

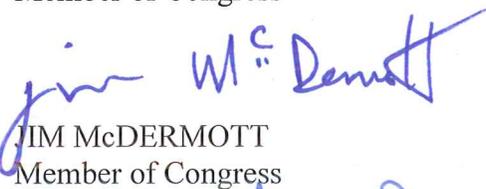

BEN RAY LUJAN
Member of Congress

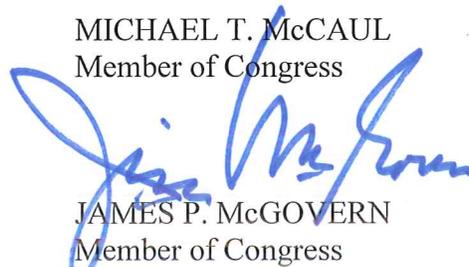

CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress

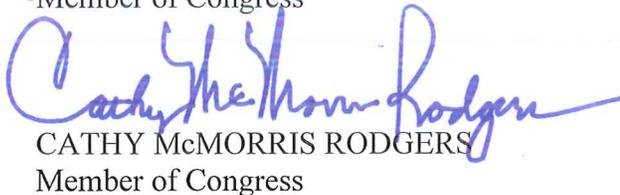

EDWARD J. MARKEY
Member of Congress

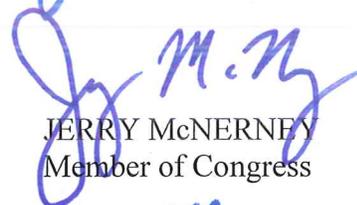

DORIS O. MATSUI
Member of Congress

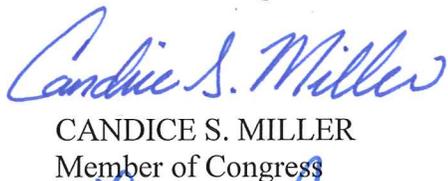

MICHAEL T. McCAUL
Member of Congress


JIM McDERMOTT
Member of Congress

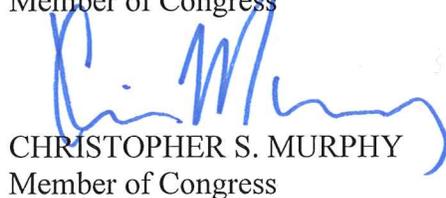

JAMES P. McGOVERN
Member of Congress


CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS
Member of Congress


JERRY McNERNEY
Member of Congress


CANDICE S. MILLER
Member of Congress


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Member of Congress


CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY
Member of Congress


TIM MURPHY
Member of Congress


SUE MYRICK
Member of Congress

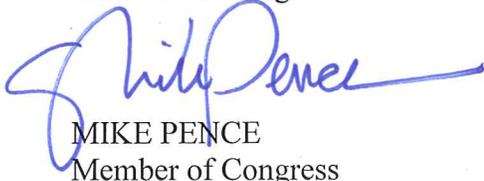

JERROLD NADLER
Member of Congress



ALAN NUNNELEE
Member of Congress



BILL PASCRELL, JR.
Member of Congress



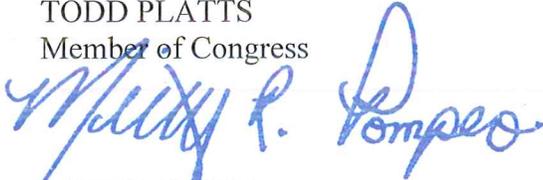
MIKE PENCE
Member of Congress



GARY PETERS
Member of Congress



TODD PLATTS
Member of Congress



MIKE POMPEO
Member of Congress



MIKE QUIGLEY
Member of Congress



LAURA RICHARDSON
Member of Congress



PETER J. ROSKAM
Member of Congress



BILL OWENS
Member of Congress



ERIK PAULSEN
Member of Congress



ED PERLMUTTER
Member of Congress



PEDRO R. PIERLUISI
Member of Congress



TED POE
Member of Congress



TOM PRICE
Member of Congress



SILVESTRE REYES
Member of Congress



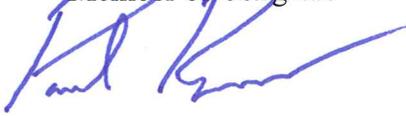
DAVID RIVERA
Member of Congress



DENNIS ROSS
Member of Congress



STEVEN R. ROTHMAN
Member of Congress



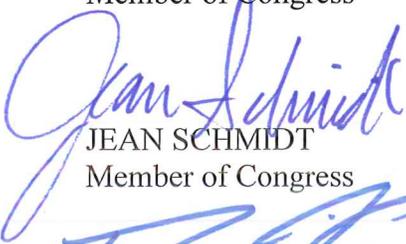
PAUL RYAN
Member of Congress



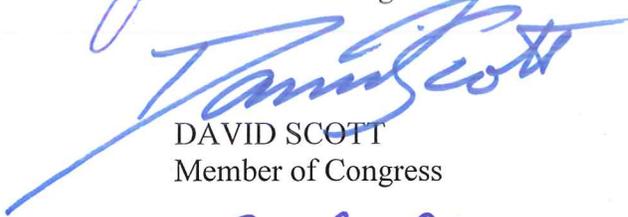
LORETTA SANCHEZ
Member of Congress



ADAM B. SCHIFF
Member of Congress



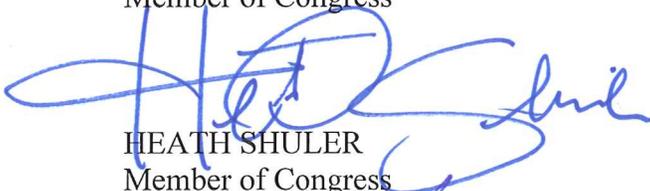
JEAN SCHMIDT
Member of Congress



DAVID SCOTT
Member of Congress



BRAD SHERMAN
Member of Congress



HEATH SHULER
Member of Congress



ALBIO SIRES
Member of Congress



EDWARD R. ROYCE
Member of Congress



LINDA SANCHEZ
Member of Congress



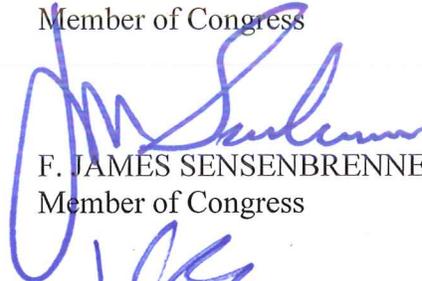
JAN SCHAKOWSKY
Member of Congress



AARON SCHOCK
Member of Congress



ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ
Member of Congress



F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.
Member of Congress



JOHN M. SHIMKUS
Member of Congress



^{BILL}
BUD SHUSTER
Member of Congress



ADRIAN SMITH
Member of Congress

CHRIS SMITH
Member of Congress

ADAM SMITH
Member of Congress

BETTY SUTTON
Member of Congress

NIKI TSONGAS
Member of Congress

PETER J. VISCLOSKY
Member of Congress

JOE WALSH
Member of Congress

ALLEN WEST
Member of Congress

STEPHEN A. WOMACK
Member of Congress

ROBERT ADERHOLT
Member of Congress

LAMAR SMITH
Member of Congress

JOHN SULLIVAN
Member of Congress

GLENN THOMPSON
Member of Congress

CHRIS VAN HOLLEN
Member of Congress

TIM WALBERG
Member of Congress

HENRY A. WAXMAN
Member of Congress

LYNN WESTMORELAND
Member of Congress

JOHN YARMUTH
Member of Congress

MICHELE BACHMANN
Member of Congress

T. Todd Akin

TODD AKIN
Member of Congress

Lois Capps

LOIS CAPPS
Member of Congress

Mike Fitzpatrick

MIKE FITZPATRICK
Member of Congress

Brian Higgins

BRIAN HIGGINS
Member of Congress

Doug Lamborn

DOUG LAMBORN
Member of Congress

Carolyn McCarthy

CAROLYN McCARTHY
Member of Congress

Michael H. Michaud

MICHAEL H. MICHAUD
Member of Congress

Frank Pallone, Jr.

FRANK PALLONE, JR.
Member of Congress

Phil Riddle

REID RIBBLE
Member of Congress

Marsha Blackburn

MARSHA BLACKBURN
Member of Congress

Hansen Clarke

HANSEN CLARKE
Member of Congress

Chuck Fleisch

CHUCK FLEISCHMANN
Member of Congress

Sander M. Levin

SANDER M. LEVIN
Member of Congress

Jim Matheson

JIM MATHESON
Member of Congress

David B. McKinley

DAVID McKINLEY
Member of Congress

John W. Olver

JOHN W. OLVER
Member of Congress

D. Reichert

DAVE REICHERT
Member of Congress

Phil Roe

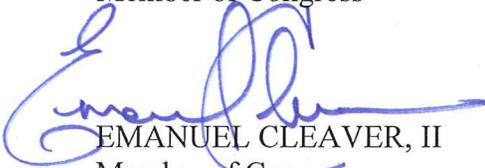
PHIL ROE
Member of Congress



RUSS CARNAHAN
Member of Congress



BILL CASSIDY
Member of Congress



EMANUEL CLEAVER, II
Member of Congress



JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress



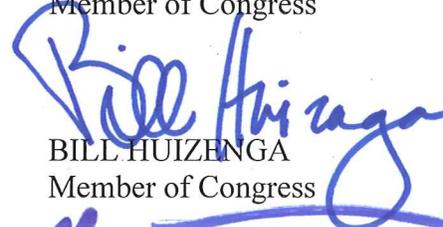
BLAKE FARENTHOLD
Member of Congress



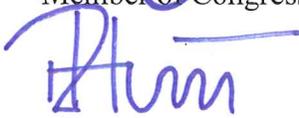
JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER
Member of Congress



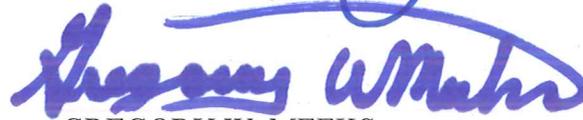
STENY H. HOYER
Member of Congress



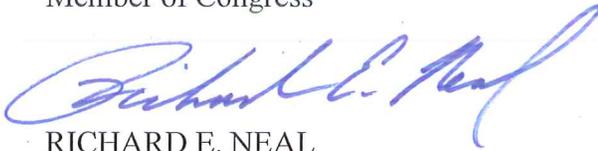
BILL HUIZENGA
Member of Congress



ROBERT HURT
Member of Congress



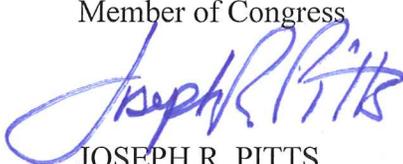
GREGORY W. MEEKS
Member of Congress



RICHARD E. NEAL
Member of Congress



STEVE PEARCE
Member of Congress



JOSEPH R. PITTS
Member of Congress



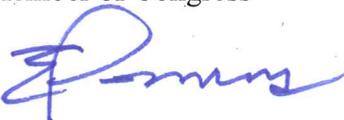
JON D. RUNYAN
Member of Congress



STEVE SOUTHERLAND
Member of Congress



STEVE STIVERS
Member of Congress



EDOLPHUS TOWNS
Member of Congress



DALE KILDEE
Member of Congress



SANDY ADAMS
Member of Congress



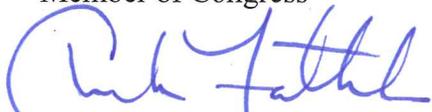
LOU BARLETTA
Member of Congress



ANN MARIE BUERKLE
Member of Congress



JO ANN EMERSON
Member of Congress



CHAKA FATTAH
Member of Congress



STEPHEN FINCHER
Member of Congress



KATHLEEN C. HOCHUL
Member of Congress



TIM HOLDEN
Member of Congress



MICHAEL M. HONDA
Member of Congress



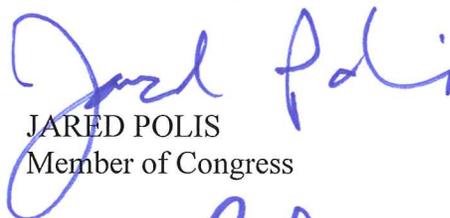
RICK LARSEN
Member of Congress



DANIEL LIPINSKI
Member of Congress



PATRICK MEEHAN
Member of Congress



JARED POLIS
Member of Congress



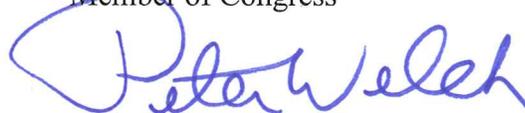
C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBURGER
Member of Congress



JOHN SARBANES
Member of Congress



STEVE SCALISE
Member of Congress



PETER WELCH
Member of Congress



PETER DeFAZIO
Member of Congress



DOC HASTINGS
Member of Congress



RICH NUGENT
Member of Congress



TOM REED
Member of Congress



PAUL D. TONKO
Member of Congress



TIMOTHY H. BISHOP
Member of Congress



TRENT FRANKS
Member of Congress



FREDERICA S. WILSON
Member of Congress



RICK CRAWFORD
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GEORGE MILLER
Member of Congress



DONALD M. PAYNE
Member of Congress

Wally Herger

WALLY HERGER
Member of Congress