

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chris Wright  
Secretary  
Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

October 7, 2025

Dear Secretary Wright:

We write to condemn the Department of Energy's (DOE) termination of 321 financial awards, supporting 223 projects supporting energy resilience across the country. We are deeply concerned about your Department's attempt to rebrand the elimination of U.S. clean energy as "\$7.56 billion in savings" to taxpayers<sup>1</sup> and the potential political motivations behind the targeting of projects in Democratic-leaning states.

This decision is a reversal of properly awarded projects that will harm American jobs, drive private capital out of our country, weaken our power grid, and give China a strategic edge. This Administration's decision to play political games will result in genuine harm at a time when millions of American families are already struggling to pay their electricity bills amidst the ever-rising cost of living. These blatantly partisan cancellations must immediately be reversed.

The projects that the Department of Energy (DOE) has unilaterally decided to cancel were driving down costs for *all* our constituents—regardless of their political affiliation. Household electric bills have already increased 10% nationally since January 2025 and are poised to spike even further.<sup>2</sup> This Administration's reckless energy policy and award terminations, designed to stifle the development of cheap clean energy and prop up more expensive dirty energy, will only further increase the cost burden for families to keep the lights on.

Your press statement claims these projects "did not adequately advance the nation's energy needs, were not economically viable, and would not provide a positive return on investment."<sup>3</sup> That is a pretext for cancellations that track political talking points, not facts. Many of these awards had already passed rigorous review, and many of those had already been processed. Companies hired workers, signed contracts, broke ground, and put up private capital in reliance on DOE commitments. Calling that "savings" ignores stranded equipment orders, canceled subcontracts, and layoffs—real costs that ripple through American supply chains. Instead of executing Congress's direction to build U.S. energy leadership and grid reliability, DOE is moving the goalposts while terminating the very projects that would deliver results.

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Energy, <https://www.energy.gov/articles/energy-department-announces-termination-223-projects-saving-over-75-billion>

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Energy Information Administration, [https://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/epm\\_table\\_grapher.php?t=table\\_5\\_03](https://www.eia.gov/electricity/monthly/epm_table_grapher.php?t=table_5_03)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Energy, <https://www.energy.gov/articles/energy-department-announces-termination-223-projects-saving-over-75-billion>

The consequences of these actions are significant: cancellations will shutter facilities, kill jobs, and stall critical domestic manufacturing. They also inject avoidable uncertainty into energy markets—forcing investors to consider political risks that you have created, which raises financing costs. Terminating grid and manufacturing projects locks in congestion and supply-chain bottlenecks, which will lead to higher long-term electricity prices for households and businesses.

We are at a moment of unprecedented growth in electricity demand, which is expected to increase by 25% by 2030.<sup>4</sup> At a time when more energy supply is needed than ever, these cuts will only exacerbate upward pressure on electricity prices by stranding low-cost supply, delaying grid expansion, and increasing reliance on higher-cost imports. In your confirmation hearing, you pledged to pursue “all sources of affordable, reliable energy” to meet these challenges. By terminating awards for cheap energy solutions and those that strengthen the grid, you are going against your word and worsening the very problem you promised to help solve.

Eliminating the Grid Deployment Office and Office of Clean Energy Deployment projects delays transmission and weakens grid resilience, a shortsighted decision that threatens even steeper increasing costs to American consumers and businesses in the future. Additionally, these so-called “savings” waste sunk federal and state dollars and betray disadvantaged communities by erasing critical work to reduce pollution and improve energy affordability.

Fifteen years ago, China generated less electricity than the United States. Today, China generates more than twice as much as we do—and the gap continues to grow.<sup>5</sup> As China and other nations continue to innovate and build the energy technologies of the future, this is precisely the wrong time for the U.S. to back out and cede our technological leadership. The rest of the world will continue to innovate with or without us, and these grant terminations will only set our innovation back at a pivotal time.

It is difficult for us to believe that these project terminations were anything but a partisan targeting of states that are not politically aligned with this Administration. These terminations undermine the spirit of competitive, merit-based awards and throw into question the fairness of the award process under this Administration.

**As such, we demand that DOE take the following immediate actions by Tuesday, October 14, 2025:**

1. Suspend all terminations and de-obligations and reinstate the projects.
2. Provide a complete list of affected awards (office, recipient, state, award number, selection date, federal obligation, non-federal cost share, milestone status) along with the project-specific written justification for termination.

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<sup>4</sup> ICF, <https://www.icf.com/insights/energy/electricity-demand-expected-to-grow>

<sup>5</sup> Our World in Data, <https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/electricity-generation>

3. Identify the specific statutory and regulatory authorities relied upon for these mass post-award terminations.
4. Preserve and provide all Department of Energy records, memoranda, and communications related to the review and termination of these awards, including those resulting from the May 2025 Secretarial memorandum “Ensuring Responsibility for Financial Assistance.”
5. Describe DOE’s process for recipient appeals and dispute resolution, including timelines, decision-makers, and whether interim funding will be permitted to avoid waste while appeals are pending.

Dismantling America’s advanced-energy buildout under the banner of “savings” does not protect taxpayers—it subsidizes our competitors. It means higher bills and fewer American jobs. We will utilize every oversight and legislative tool available to ensure the DOE follows the law, honors congressional intent, and keeps the United States at the forefront of the global energy race.

Sincerely,



Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



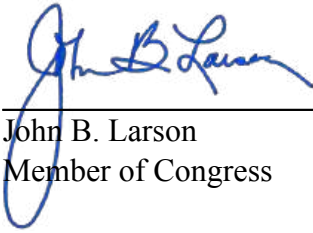
Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon  
Member of Congress

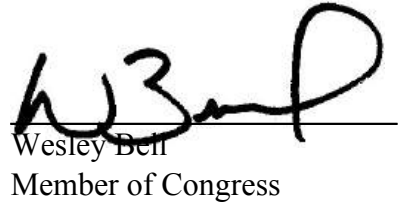


John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



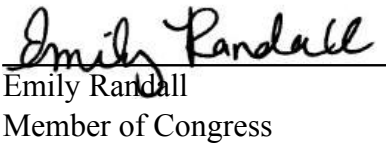
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John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



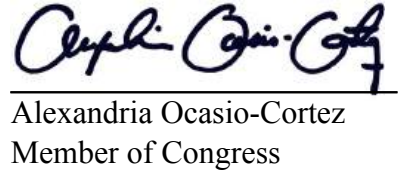
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Wesley Bell  
Member of Congress



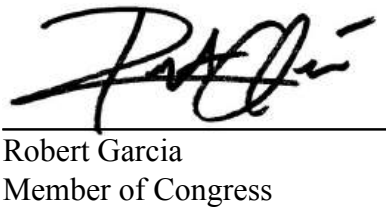
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Emily Randall  
Member of Congress



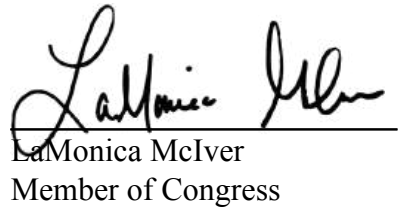
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Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress



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Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress



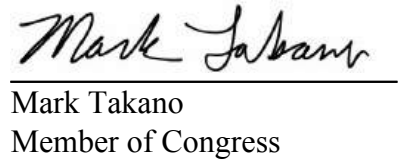
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LaMonica McIver  
Member of Congress



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Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress



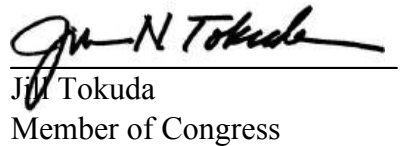
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Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



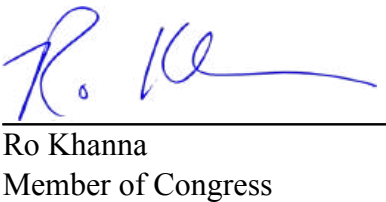
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Nellie Pou  
Member of Congress



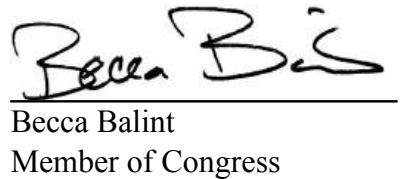
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Jim Tokuda  
Member of Congress



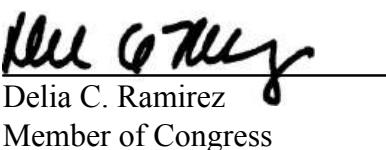
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Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress



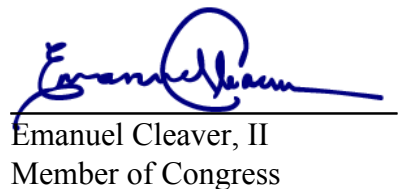
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Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



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Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



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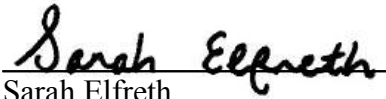
Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



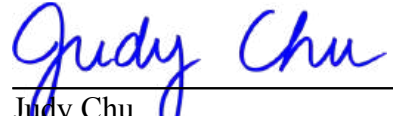
Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley  
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Sarah Elfreth  
Member of Congress



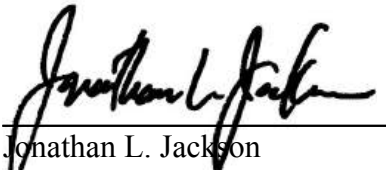
Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



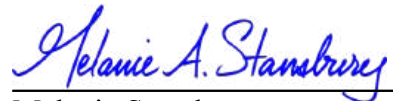
Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



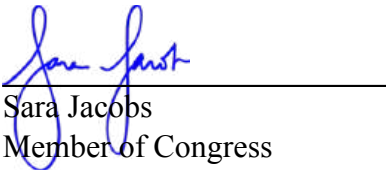
Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



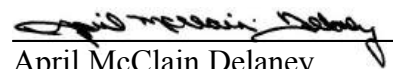
Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



Melanie Stansbury  
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Sara Jacobs  
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April McClain Delaney  
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Jim Costa  
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Kevin Mullin  
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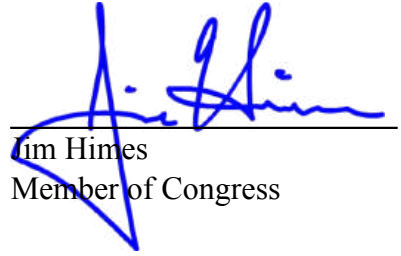
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
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Josh Harder  
Member of Congress



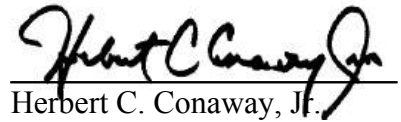
Dave Min  
Member of Congress



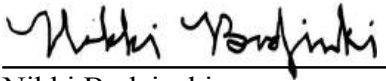
Jim Himes  
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Maxine Dexter  
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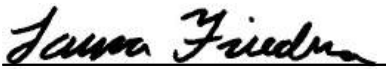
Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.  
Member of Congress



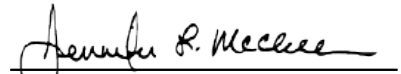
Nikki Budzinski  
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Salud Carbajal  
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Laura Friedman  
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Jennifer L. McClellan  
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Mark DeSaulnier  
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Lori Trahan  
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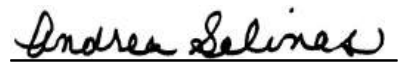
Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress



Seth Magaziner  
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Yassamin Ansari  
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Andrea Salinas  
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Robert J. Menendez  
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Juan Vargas  
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Val Hoyle  
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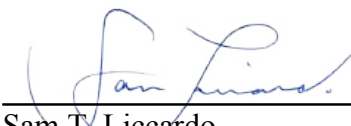
Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



Sam T. Liccardo  
Member of Congress



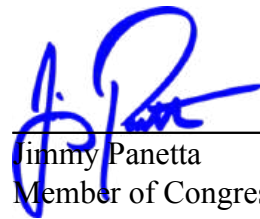
Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



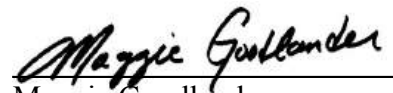
Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



Sarah McBride  
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Jimmy Panetta  
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Maggie Goodlander  
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Luz M. Rivas  
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress

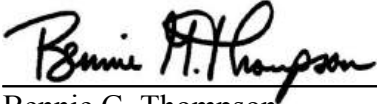




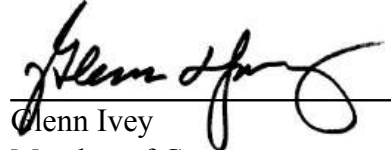
Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



Glenn Ivey  
Member of Congress



André Carson  
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett  
Member of Congress



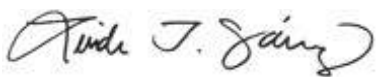
Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



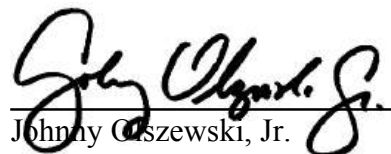
Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



Eugene Simon Vindman  
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



Johnny Osceola, Jr.  
Member of Congress





Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



Eric Sorensen  
Member of Congress



Timothy M. Kennedy  
Member of Congress



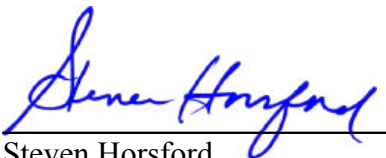
Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



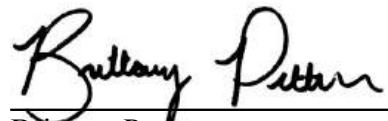
Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



Gabe Vasquez  
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress



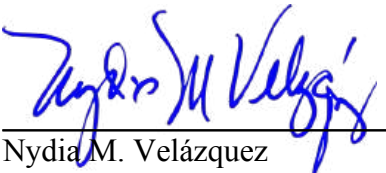
Brittany Petersen  
Member of Congress



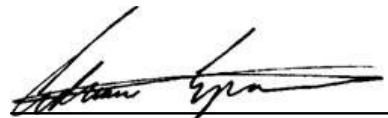
Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



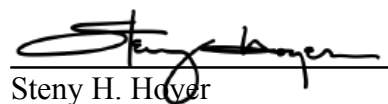
Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



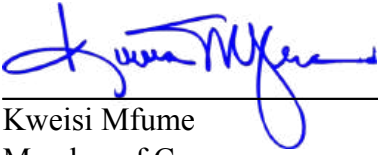
Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress



Sydney Kamlager-Dove  
Member of Congress



Steny H. Hoyer  
Member of Congress



Kweisi Mfume  
Member of Congress



Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



Cleo Fields  
Member of Congress



Greg Landsman  
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



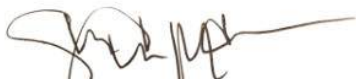
Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress



Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



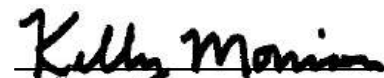
Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress



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



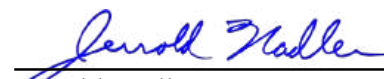
Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



Kelly Morrison  
Member of Congress



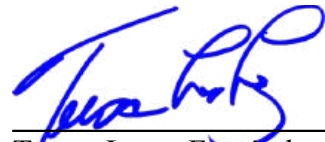
Suhas Subramanyam  
Member of Congress



Terrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



Teresa Leger Fernandez  
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Susie Lee  
Member of Congress



Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress




Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress



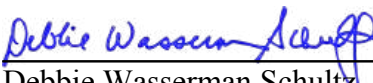
Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



George Latimer  
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



Troy A. Carter, Sr.  
Member of Congress



J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress



George Whitesides  
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Chris Pappas  
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



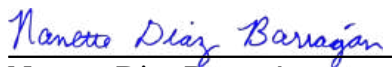
Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



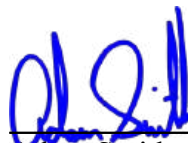
Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



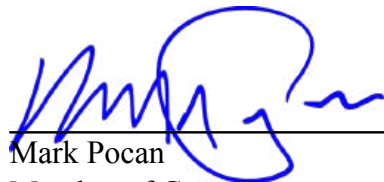
Summer L. Lee  
Member of Congress



Ed Case  
Member of Congress



Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



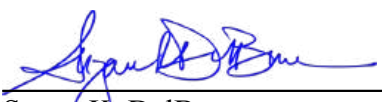
Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



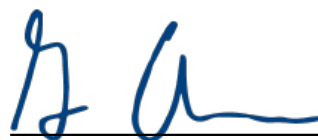
Pete Aguilar  
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



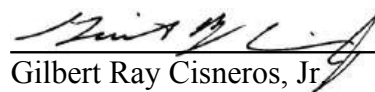
Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



Gabe Amo  
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress



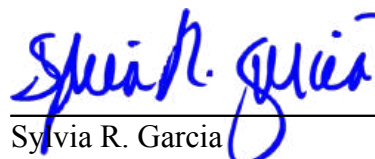
Jake Auchincloss  
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



Joseph D. Morelle  
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress




Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



Al Green  
Member of Congress




Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



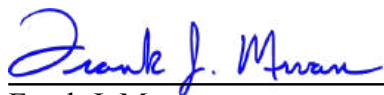
Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress



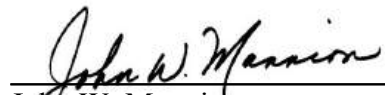
James R. Walkinshaw  
Member of Congress



Janelle S. Bynum  
Member of Congress



Frank J. Mrvan  
Member of Congress



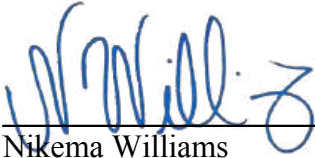
John W. Mannion  
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



Josh Riley  
Member of Congress



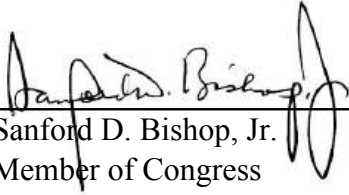
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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



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Chris Deluzio  
Member of Congress



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Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress