

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 8, 2005

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush:

We are writing to urge you to play an active role regarding the UN-sponsored negotiations between Greece and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), and specifically to address the compromise proposal recently made by United Nations mediator, Matthew Nimetz. We ask that the Administration encourage the FYROM government to accept it, and publicly praise the Greek government for their willingness to support it as a basis for negotiations.

Recently, Mr. Nimitz proposed that the name "Republika Makedonija-Skopje" be used for official, international use. Greece immediately accepted this proposal as the basis for meaningful negotiations, while FYROM has declared it as unacceptable. Greece and FYROM have been involved in discussions about the proper use of the name "Macedonia" for over sixty years. Clearly, an equitable solution to this disagreement would increase stability in the region, and help ease tensions between these nations, both of which are allies of the United States.

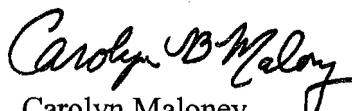
A showing of support from the United States for this reasonable compromise would encourage both sides to give it full consideration, and likely influence them towards an equitable solution. It is in the best interest of all parties involved to reach agreement on this controversial issue, and we strongly urge the Administration to take an active role in advancing negotiations.

We thank you for your commitment to reach an equitable solution to this contentious issue, and look forward to your response regarding efforts that your Administration has taken to support Mr. Nimitz' proposed solution.

Sincerely yours,



Michael Bilirakis
Member of Congress



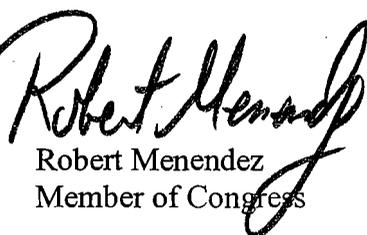
Carolyn Maloney
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Rob Andrews
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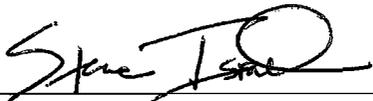
David Price
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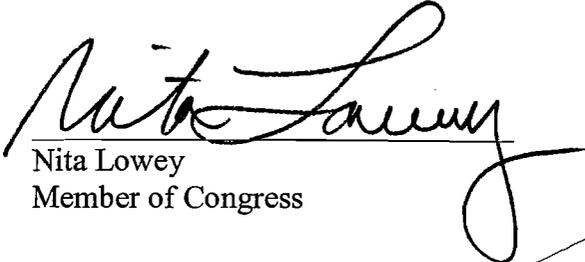


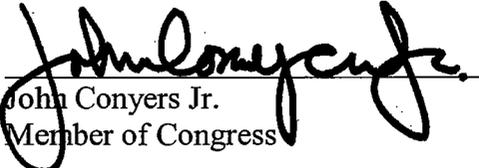
Robert Menendez
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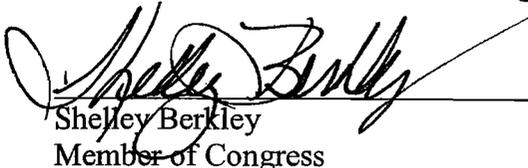


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Steve Israel
Member of Congress

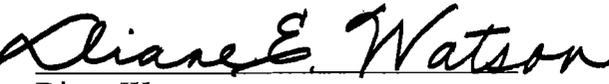

Nita Lowey
Member of Congress

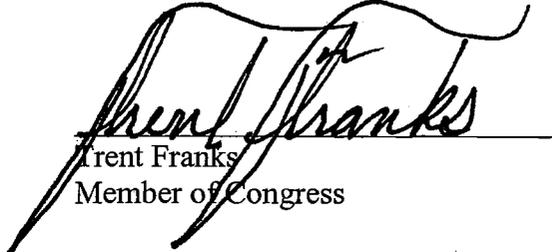

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Shelley Berkley
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Donald Payne
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Ken Calvert
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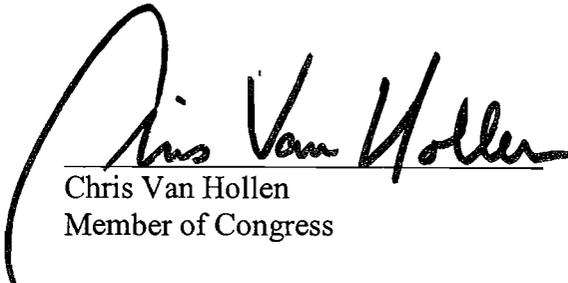

Diane Watson
Member of Congress


Trent Franks
Member of Congress

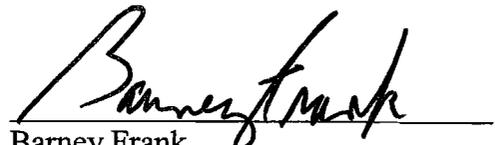

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