

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2004

The Honorable Kofi Annan  
Secretary General  
United Nations  
Office of the Secretary General  
Room S3800  
New York, New York 10017

Dear Secretary Annan:

We are writing to express our concerns on certain key issues which are currently being discussed under the auspices of the United Nations (UN) as part of the Annan plan for the reunification of Cyprus.

It is with great satisfaction that we learned of the resumption of the direct UN sponsored Cyprus talks. The commitment of the parties to negotiate within a specific time framework and on the basis of the Annan plan with the aim of reuniting the island before May 1, 2004, is of immense importance. It is our sincere wish and hope that Cyprus will join the European Union as a reunited country.

There are certain provisions in the current Annan plan that could render it unworkable and should be revised. We feel that reaching a fair and viable agreement will lead to a strong endorsement by the people of Cyprus. We must secure for the people of Cyprus a democratic system of governance based on the rule of law and the ideals that guide our own democracy.

It is our firm belief that in order to achieve this goal your office must promote, within the framework of the Cyprus talks, the following proposals:

- 1) It is absolutely necessary that all legal obligations of the guarantor powers (Turkey, Greece, UK), including the security aspects, be in place prior to the two simultaneous referenda that will be held on April 20 by the two communities in Cyprus. In addition, all federal laws and international agreements have to be completed and agreed before the referenda. The people of Cyprus must have a completed accord to consider so they fully understand what they are voting to approve or disapprove. Furthermore, the federal government of the United Cyprus Republic will have to be able to function immediately and effectively after the new state of affairs is established. It is, therefore, essential that the final accord be readily implemented and self-executing.
- 2) The Annan plan proposes a highly complicated system for resolving property issues that may force rightful owners to give up their property rights. It is essential that the agreed system for resolving property issues be consistent with the European Convention on Human Rights and international law.
- 3) The agreed number of settlers from Turkey that will remain in Cyprus must be clearly defined. This number should be as low as possible and a fair immigration structure should be developed.

- 4) During the transitional period, the land that will be returned to the Greek Cypriot side must come under the control of the United Nations so that the process of returning this land and the resettlement of the refugees will be irreversible.
- 5) The Annan plan calls for the full demilitarization of both, Greek-Cypriot and Turkish- Cypriot sides, so it makes no sense for troops from Greece and Turkey to remain in Cyprus indefinitely. We believe that security arrangements in Cyprus be enhanced through an enlarged UN force mandated by the UN Security Council.

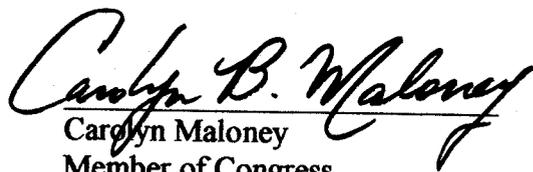
This historic opportunity for solving the Cyprus issue must be energetically pursued. We believe that a lasting peace will benefit the people of Cyprus, Greece, and Turkey. The division of Cyprus and its people must come to an end once and for all. A comprehensive settlement appears possible and Cyprus deserves a bright future as a reunited country in the European Union.

We appreciate your efforts in the resumption of the Cyprus talks. We also welcome your personal commitment and involvement in the process. We are sure that you are committed to reaching a just, functional and viable settlement in Cyprus.

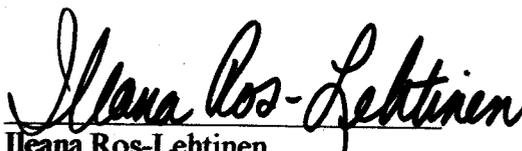
Sincerely yours,



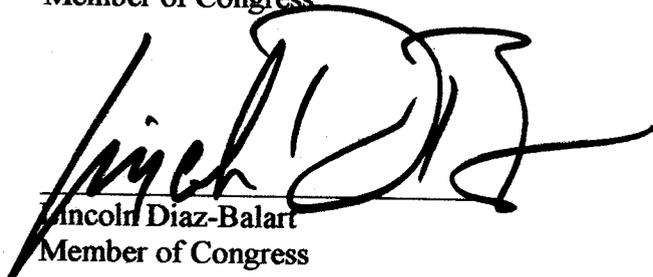
Michael Bilirakis  
Member of Congress



Carolyn Maloney  
Member of Congress



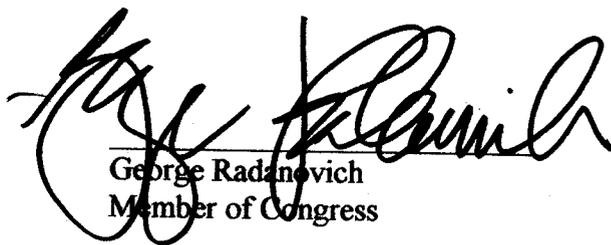
Ilana Ros-Lehtinen  
Member of Congress



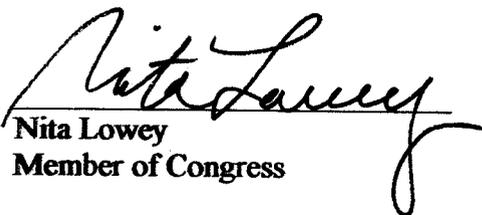
Lincoln Diaz-Balart  
Member of Congress



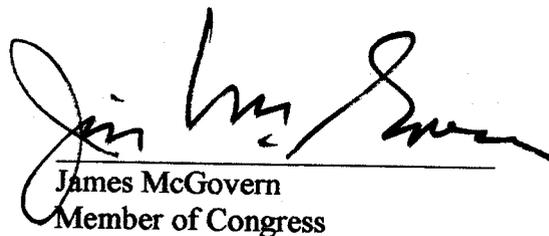
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Member of Congress



George Radanovich  
Member of Congress



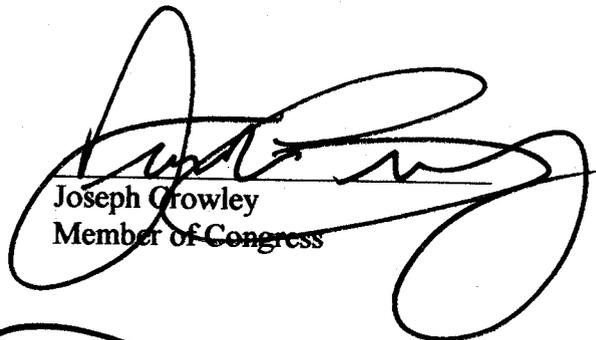
Nita Lowey  
Member of Congress



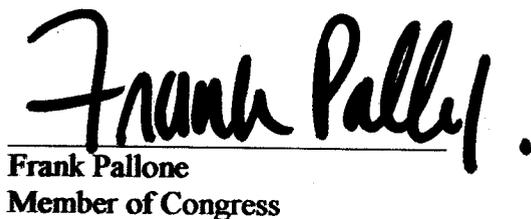
James McGovern  
Member of Congress



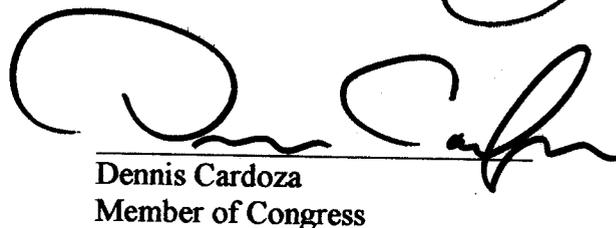
Ken Calvert  
Member of Congress



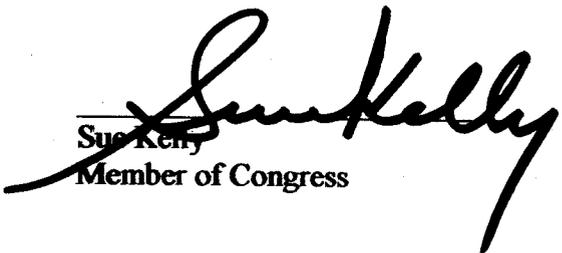
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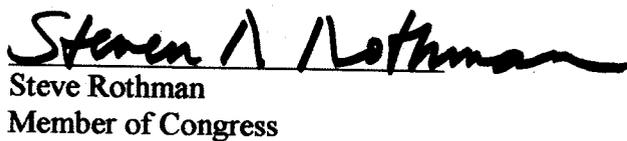
Frank Pallone  
Member of Congress



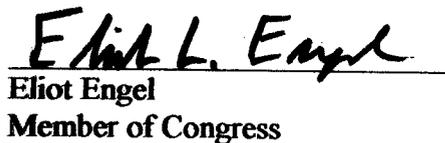
Dennis Cardoza  
Member of Congress



Sue Kelly  
Member of Congress



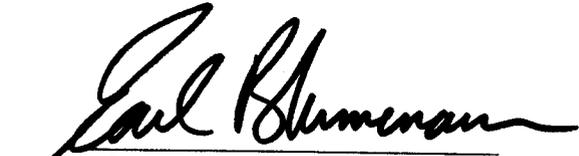
Steve Rothman  
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Eliot Engel  
Member of Congress



Rob Andrews  
Member of Congress



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Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress



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Christopher Shays  
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Shelley Berkley  
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Marty Meehan  
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Adam Schiff  
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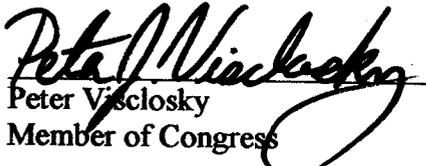
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Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



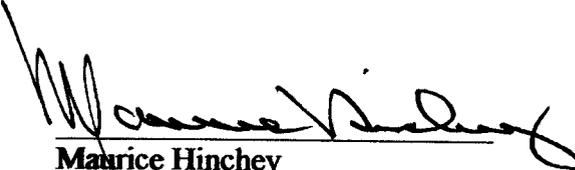
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Ed Schrock  
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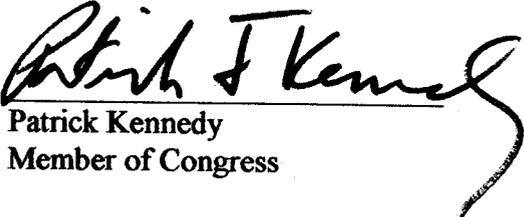
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Peter Visclosky  
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Maurice Hinchey  
Member of Congress

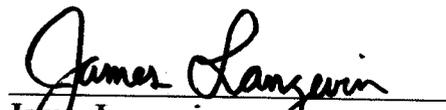


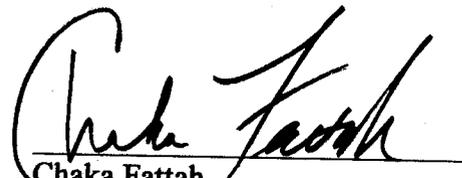
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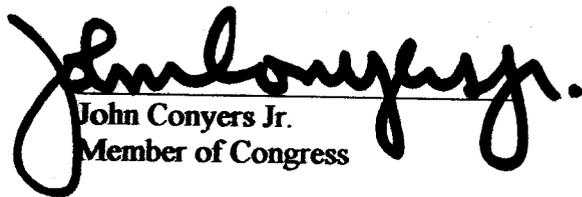
Patrick Kennedy  
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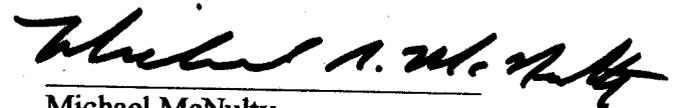
  
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Bobby Rush  
Member of Congress

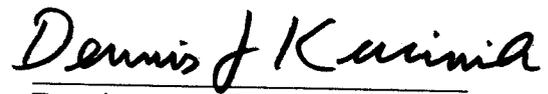
  
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Member of Congress

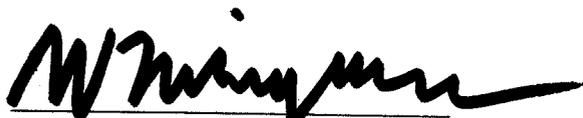
  
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John Conyers Jr.  
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Michael McNulty  
Member of Congress

  
Diane Watson  
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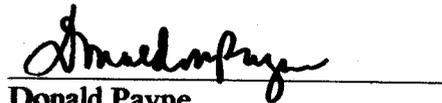
  
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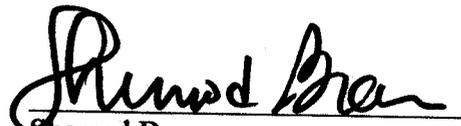
  
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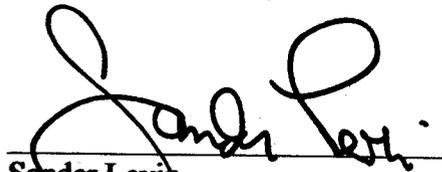
  
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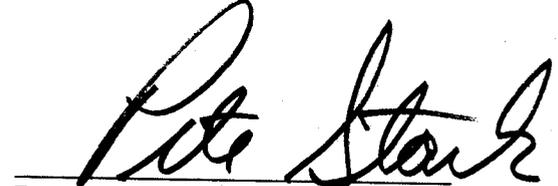
  
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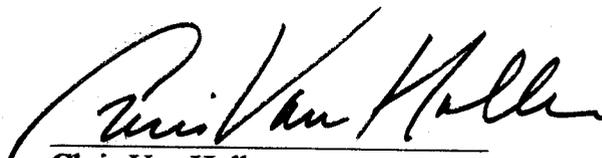
  
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Donald Payne  
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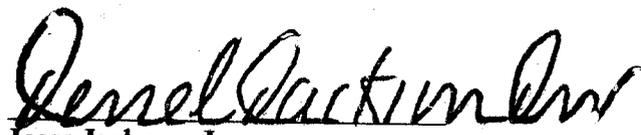
  
Sherrod Brown  
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Sander Levin  
Member of Congress

  
Pete Stark  
Member of Congress

  
Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress

  
Vito Fossella  
Member of Congress

  
Jesse Jackson, Jr.  
Member of Congress

  
Mark Souder  
Member of Congress

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2004

The Honorable Colin Powell  
Secretary of State  
Department of State  
2201 C Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20520-0001

Dear Secretary Powell:

We are writing to express our concerns on certain key issues, which are currently being discussed under the auspices of the United Nations (UN) as part of the Annan plan, for the reunification of Cyprus.

It is with great satisfaction that we learned of the resumption of the direct UN sponsored Cyprus talks. The commitment of the parties to negotiate within a specific time framework and on the basis of the Annan plan with the aim of reuniting the island before May 1, 2004, is of immense importance. It is our sincere wish and hope that Cyprus will join the European Union as a reunited country.

There are certain provisions in the current Annan plan that could render it unworkable and should be revised. We feel that the United States must help the UN reach a fair and viable agreement that will lead to a strong endorsement by the people of Cyprus. We must secure for the people of Cyprus a democratic system of governance based on the rule of law and the ideals that guide our own democracy.

It is our firm belief that in order to achieve this goal the Administration must promote, within the framework of the Cyprus talks, the following proposals:

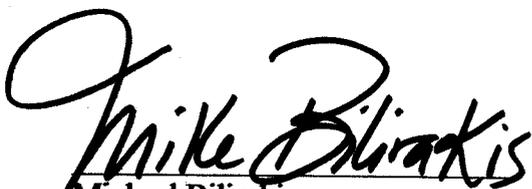
- 1) It is absolutely necessary that all legal obligations of the guarantor powers (Turkey, Greece, UK), including the security aspects, be in place prior to the two simultaneous referenda that will be held on April 20 by the two communities in Cyprus. In addition, all federal laws and international agreements have to be completed and agreed before the referenda. The people of Cyprus must have a completed accord to consider so they fully understand what they are voting to approve or disapprove. Furthermore, the federal government of the United Cyprus Republic will have to be able to function immediately and effectively after the new state of affairs is established. It is, therefore, essential that the final accord be readily implemented and self-executing.
- 2) The Annan plan proposes a highly complicated system for resolving property issues that may force rightful owners to give up their property rights. It is essential that the agreed system for resolving property issues be consistent with the European Convention on Human Rights and international law.
- 3) The agreed number of settlers from Turkey that will remain in Cyprus must be clearly defined. This number should be as low as possible and a fair immigration structure should be developed.

- 4) During the transitional period, the land that will be returned to the Greek Cypriot side must come under the control of the United Nations so that the process of returning this land and the resettlement of the refugees will be irreversible.
- 5) The Annan plan calls for the full demilitarization of both, Greek-Cypriot and Turkish- Cypriot sides, so it makes no sense for troops from Greece and Turkey to remain in Cyprus indefinitely. The U.S. should insist that security arrangements in Cyprus be enhanced through an enlarged UN force mandated by the UN Security Council.

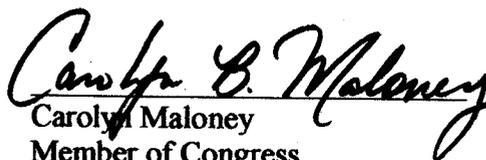
The achievement of a genuine resolution to the Cyprus issue is in the interest of the United States and should therefore be energetically pursued. As you have stated, a lasting peace will benefit the people of Cyprus, Greece, and Turkey and at the same time serves American interests in the region. The division of Cyprus and its people must come to an end once and for all. A comprehensive settlement appears possible and Cyprus, a good friend and strong ally of the United States, deserves a bright future as a reunited country in the European Union. The United States should help to make this happen.

We appreciate the support that you have provided to the efforts of the UN Secretary General in resuming the Cyprus talks and your personal commitment and involvement in the process. We urge the Administration to continue to use all its diplomatic leverage for reaching a just, functional and viable settlement in Cyprus.

Sincerely yours,



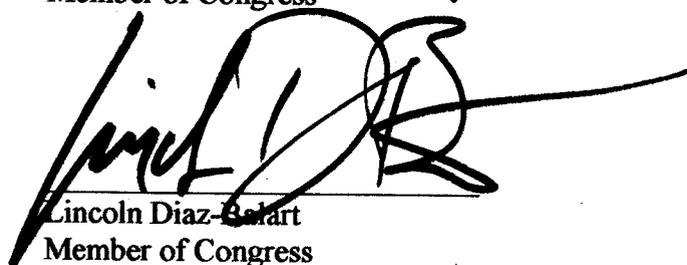
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Member of Congress



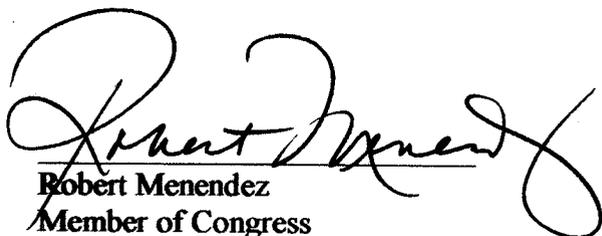
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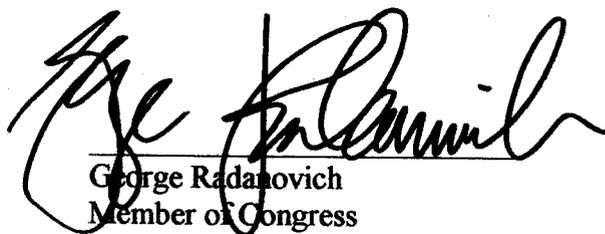
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen  
Member of Congress



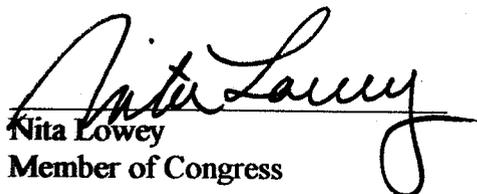
Lincoln Diaz-Blanco  
Member of Congress

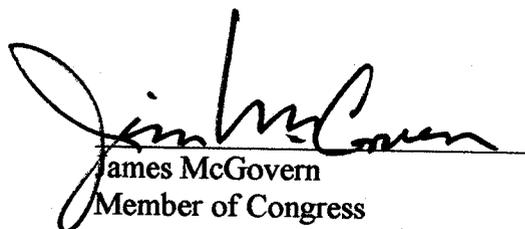


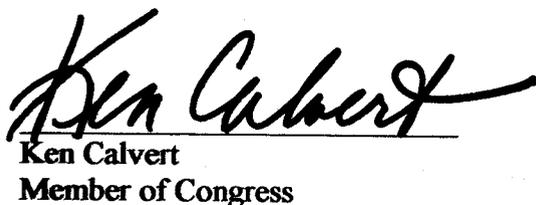
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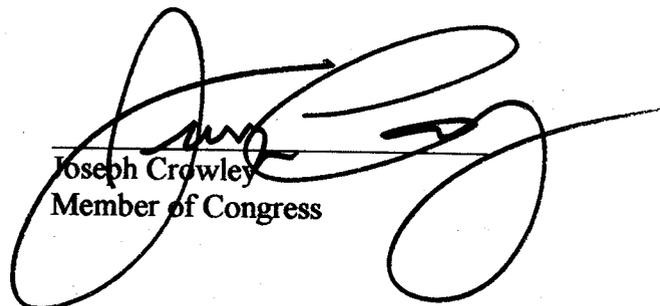


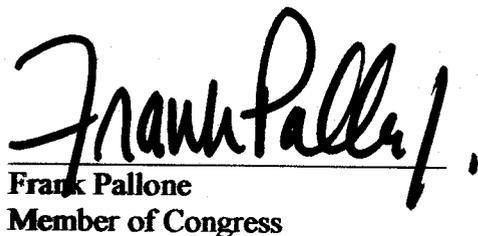
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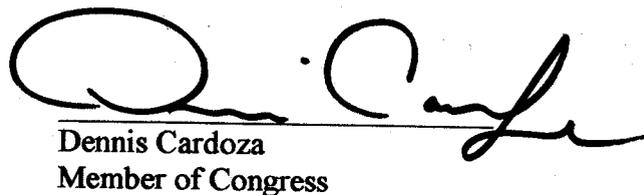
  
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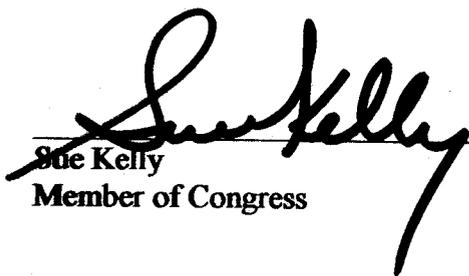
  
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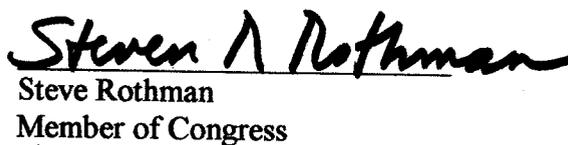
  
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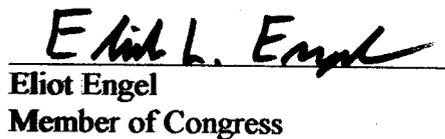
  
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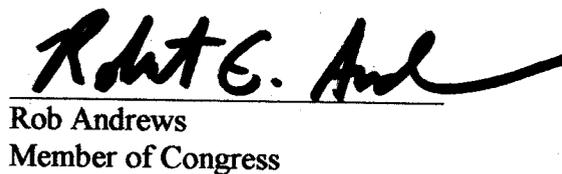
  
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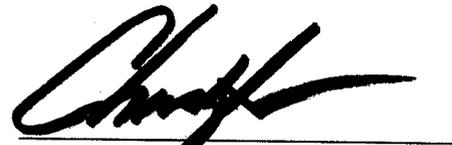
  
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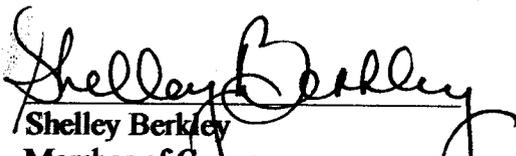
  
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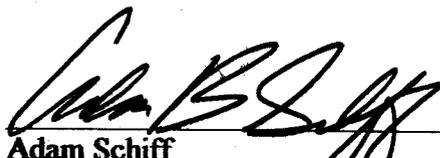
  
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Earl Blumenauer  
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Christopher Shays  
Member of Congress

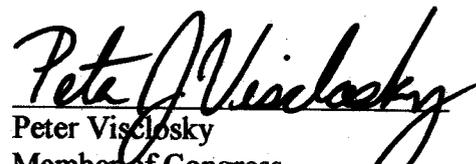
  
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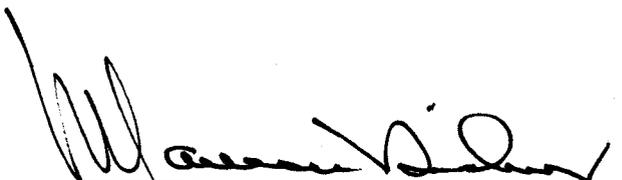
  
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Member of Congress

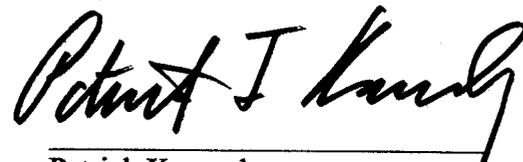
  
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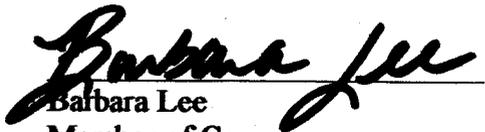
  
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Member of Congress

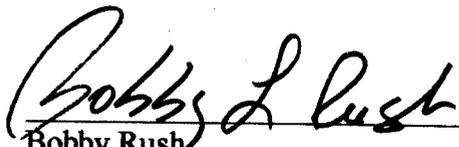
  
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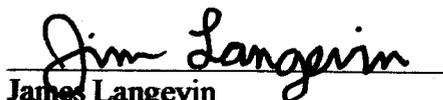
  
Peter Visclosky  
Member of Congress

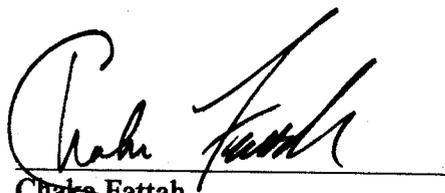
  
Maurice Hinchey  
Member of Congress

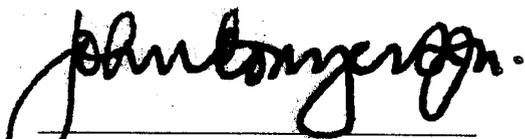
  
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Barbara Lee  
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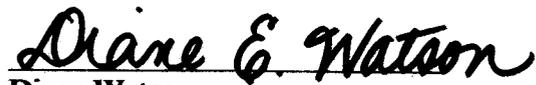
  
Bobby Rush  
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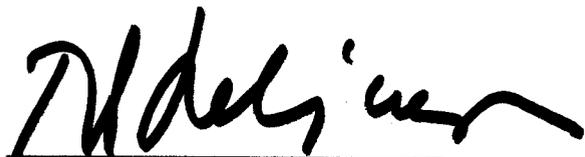
  
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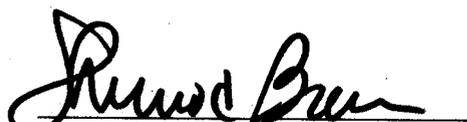
  
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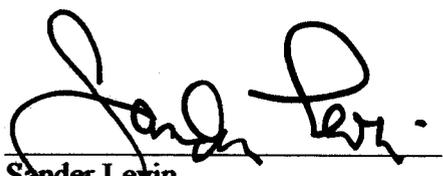
  
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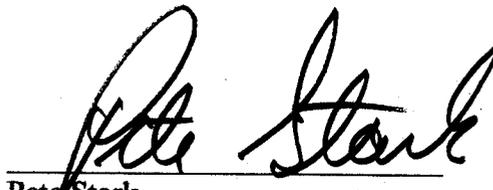
  
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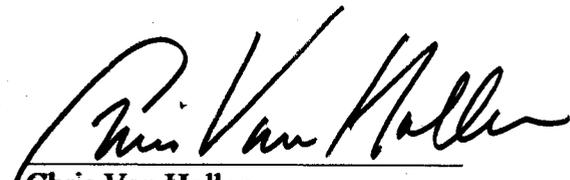
  
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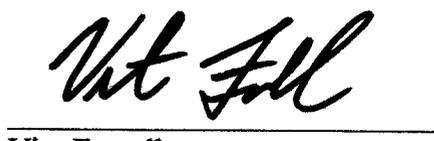
  
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