

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2018

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS & Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Congress  
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS & Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Congress  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

We write to thank the Subcommittee for its previous support, and to urge you to support robust funding for the Institute of Museum and Library Services' (IMLS) Office of Museum Services (OMS) in the FY 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill.

Despite its small size, the IMLS Office of Museum Services is the largest dedicated source of investment in our nation's museums, which support over 700,000 jobs and contribute \$50 billion annually to the U.S. economy. OMS funding plays a significant role in this economic impact by helping museums reach more visitors and spur community development. In addition to their economic benefits, OMS grants also support museums' advancements in areas such as technology, lifelong community learning, and conservation and preservation. These successes notwithstanding, only a small fraction of the nation's museums are currently being reached and many highly rated grant applications go unfunded.

The demand for museum services is greater than ever. At a time when school and community resources are strained, museums are working overtime to fill the gaps. Every year, they welcome more than 55 million schoolchildren, bring art, science and cultural heritage into communities, and partner with other nonprofits to meet the specific needs of their local population. In addition, our nation's museums are opening their doors to more people than ever with over 850 million visits each year – with many of these visitors offered free or reduced admission. Museums are also part of a robust nonprofit community working to address a wide range of our nation's greatest challenges, from conducting medical research to helping veterans heal physically and psychologically, and from creating energy efficient public buildings to collecting food for needy families.

When the Institute of Museum and Library Services was last reauthorized, the legislation cleared both the House and Senate unanimously. The agency is highly accountable, and its competitive, peer-reviewed grants leverage significant private resources while supporting museums in every state.

We urge the Subcommittee to support robust funding for the IMLS Office of Museum Services for FY 2019 to support the important work museums are doing in our districts. This vital funding will aid museums of all types and enable them to continue bolstering the economy, serving our schools and communities, and preserving our cultural heritage for future generations.

Again, we appreciate the Subcommittee's prior support for OMS and request this investment to strengthen and sustain the work of our nation's museums.

Sincerely,



Paul Tonko



Leonard Lance



Louise M. Slaughter



David B. McKinley, P.E.



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.



Suzanne Bonamici



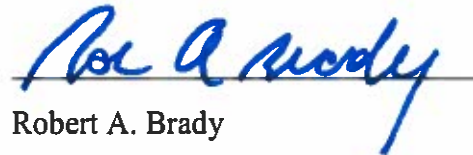
Earl Blumenauer



Brendan F. Boyle



Alma S. Adams



Robert A. Brady



Andy Barr



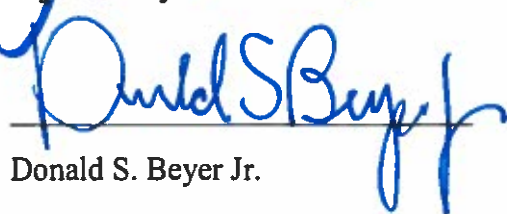
Anthony G. Brown



Joyce Beatty



Julia Brownley



Donald S. Beyer Jr.

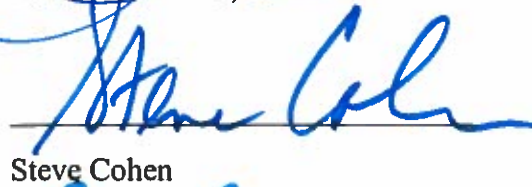


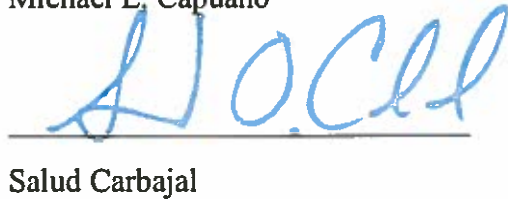
Cheri Bustos

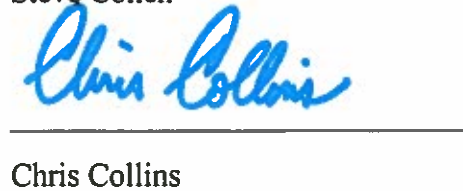
  
S. K. Butterfield

  
Emanuel Cleaver, II

  
Michael E. Capuano

  
Steve Cohen

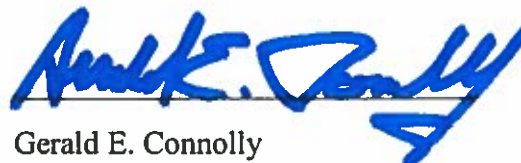
  
Salud Carbajal

  
Chris Collins

  
Tony Cardenas

  
Barbara Comstock

  
André Carson

  
Gerald E. Connolly

  
Kathy Castor

  
Joe Courtney

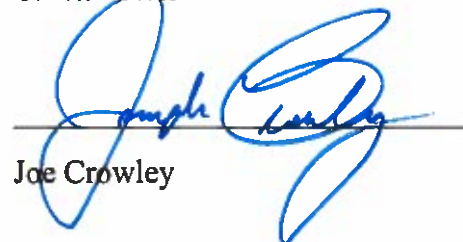
  
Judy Chu

  
Kevin Cramer

  
David N. Cicilline

  
Charlie Crist

  
Yvette D. Clarke

  
Joe Crowley



Danny K. Davis



Susan A. Davis



Rodney Davis



Peter A. DeFazio



Diana DeGette



John K. Delaney



Suzan K. DelBene



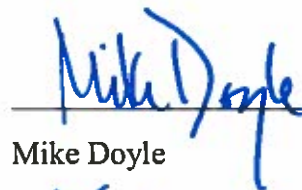
Mark DeSaulnier



Ted Deutch



Debbie Dingell




Mike Doyle



Keith Ellison



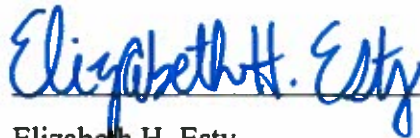
Eliot L. Engel



Anna G. Eshoo




Adriano Espaillat



Elizabeth H. Esty



Dwight Evans

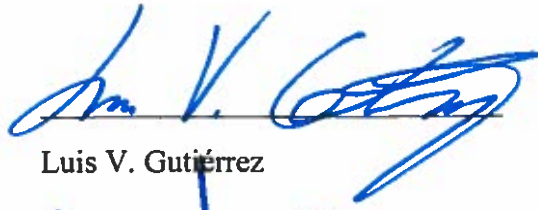


John J. Faso





Brian Fitzpatrick



Luis V. Gutiérrez



Bill Foster



Colleen Hanabusa



Marcia L. Fudge



Alcee L. Hastings



Ruben Gallego



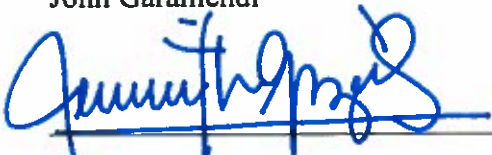
Denny Heck



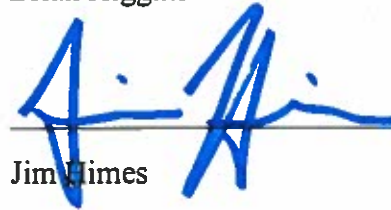
John Garamendi



Brian Higgins



Jenniffer González-Colón



Jim Himes



Josh Gottheimer



Eleanor Holmes Norton



Al Green



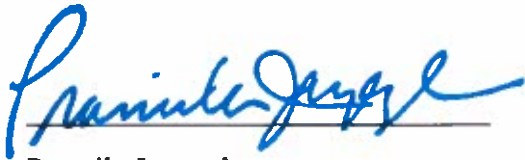
Jared Huffman



Raúl M. Grijalva



Will Hurd



Pramila Jayapal



Daniel T. Kildee



Hakeem Jeffries



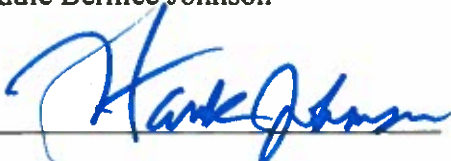
Ron Kind



Eddie Bernice Johnson



Raja Krishnamoorthi



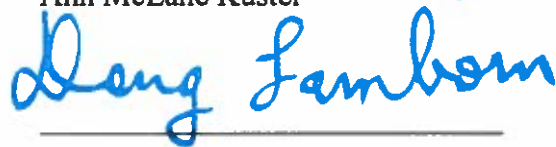
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.



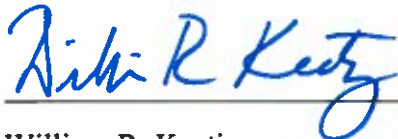
Ann McLane Kuster



John Katko



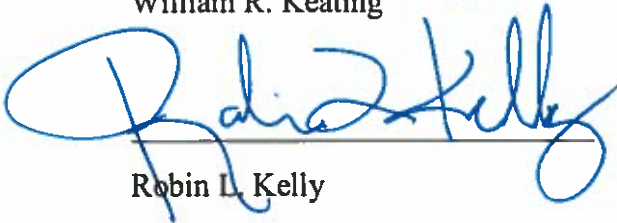
Doug Lamborn



William R. Keating



James R. Langevin



Robin L. Kelly



John B. Larson



Joseph P. Kennedy III



Brenda L. Lawrence



Ruben J. Kihuen



Al Lawson



Barbara Lee



Sheila Jackson Lee



Sander M. Levin



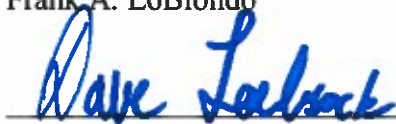
John Lewis



Daniel W. Lipinski



Frank A. LoBiondo



Dave Loebsack



Zoe Lofgren



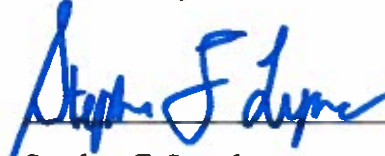
Alan Lowenthal



Ben Ray Luján



Michelle Lujan Grisham



Stephen F. Lynch



Carolyn B. Maloney



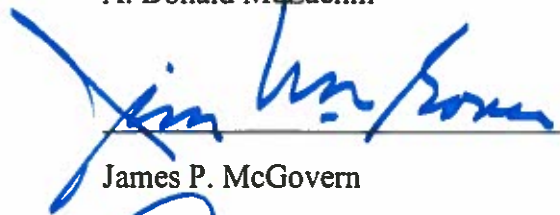
Sean Patrick Maloney



Doris Matsui



A. Donald McEachin



James P. McGovern

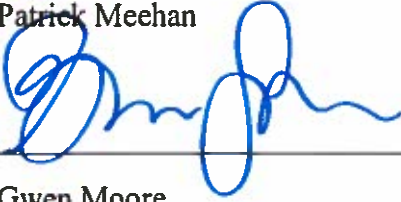


Jerry McNerney

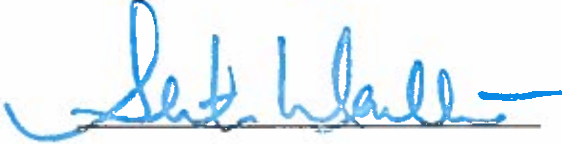




Patrick Meehan



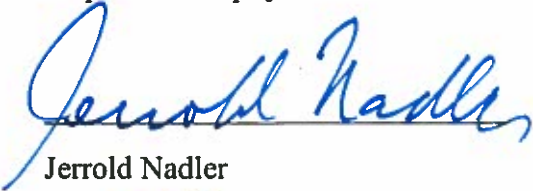
Gwen Moore



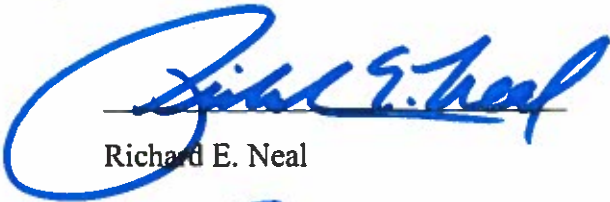
Seth Moulton



Stephanie Murphy



Jerrold Nadler



Richard E. Neal



Richard M. Nolan



Tom O'Halleran



Beto O'Rourke



Frank Pallone, Jr.



Bill Pascrell, Jr.



Donald M. Payne, Jr.



Ed Perlmutter



Scott H. Peters



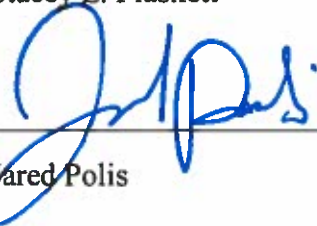
Collin C. Peterson



Chellie Pingree



Stacey E. Plaskett



Jared Polis

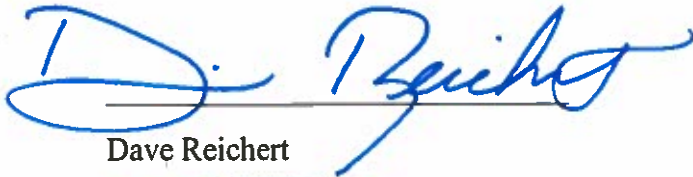




Mike Quigley



Jamie Raskin



Dave Reichert



Cedric L. Richmond



Kathleen M. Rice



Ileana Ros-Lehtinen



Jacky Rosen



Dennis A. Ross



C.A. Dutch Ruppberger



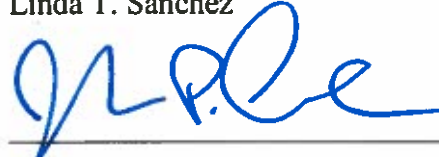
Bobby L. Rush



Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan



Linda T. Sánchez



John Sarbanes



Jan Schakowsky



Adam B. Schiff



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott



David Scott



Bradley S. Schneider

Pete Sessions

Pete Sessions

Carol Shea-Porter

Carol Shea-Porter

Kyristen Sinema

Kyristen Sinema

Albio Sires

Albio Sires

Adam Smith

Adam Smith

Darren Soto

Darren Soto

Jackie Speier

Jackie Speier

Elise M. Stefanik

Elise M. Stefanik

Eric Swalwell

Eric Swalwell

Mark Takano

Mark Takano

Glenn 'GT' Thompson

Glenn 'GT' Thompson

Mike Thompson

Mike Thompson

Scott Tipton

Scott Tipton

Dina Titus

Dina Titus

Dave Trott

Dave Trott

Niki Tsongas

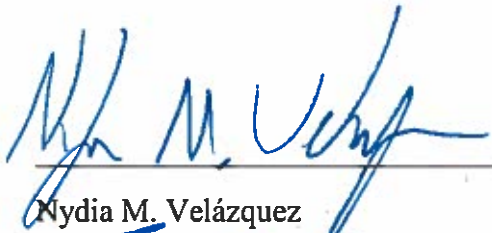
Niki Tsongas

Marc Veasey

Marc Veasey

Filemon Vela

Filemon Vela



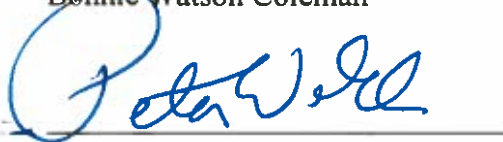
Nydia M. Velázquez



Tim Walz



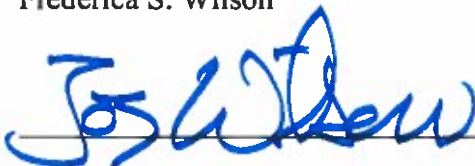
Bonnie Watson Coleman



Peter Welch



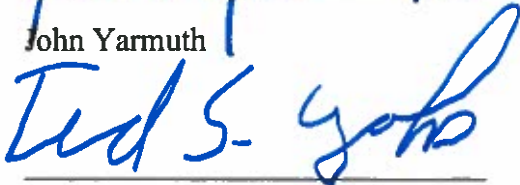
Frederica S. Wilson



Joe Wilson



John Yarmuth



Ted S. Yoho, D.V.M




Don Young



Donald Norcross



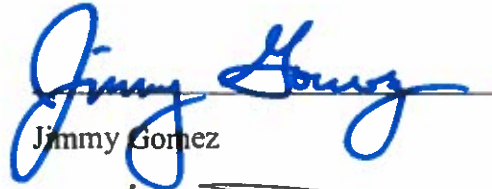
Tulsi Gabbard



Lloyd Doggett



Lisa Blunt Rochester



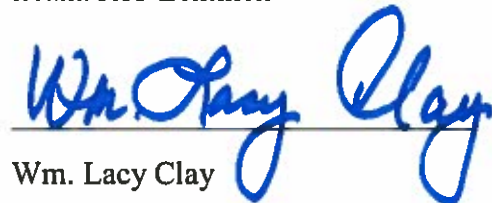
Jimmy Gomez



Gregory Meeks



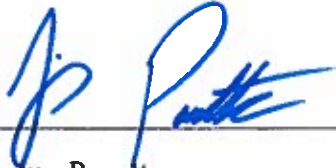
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen



Wm. Lacy Clay



J. Luis Correa



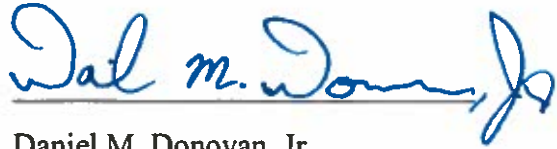
Jimmy Panetta



Ted W. Lieu



Karen Bass



Daniel M. Donovan, Jr.



Michael R. Turner



Mike Coffman