

FY 2019 HOUSE appropriations letter in support of the IMLS Office of Museum Services

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
U.S. Representative

Leonard Lance
U.S. Representative

David B. McKinley, P.E.
U.S. Representative

Louise M. Slaughter
U.S. Representative

For your reference, the following page lists the **183 Representatives who signed on to this letter last year**, led by Representatives Tonko (D-NY), Lance (R-NJ), Slaughter (D-NY), and McKinley (R-WV). This may be an indication that they will be willing to sign the FY 2020 letter this year.

Alma S. Adams (D-NC)	Mike Doyle (D-PA)	Brenda L. Lawrence (D-MI)	Cedric L. Richmond (D-LA)
Andy Barr (R-KY)	Keith Ellison (D-MN)	Al Lawson (D-FL)	Kathleen M. Rice (D-NY)
Karen Bass (D-CA)	Eliot L. Engel (D-NY)	Barbara Lee (D-CA)	Heana Res-Lehtinen (R-FL)
Joyce Beatty (D-OH)	Anna G. Eshoo (D-CA)	Sander M. Levin (D-MI)	Jacky Rosen (D-NV)
Donald S. Beyer Jr. (D-VA)	Adriano Espaillat (D-NY)	John Lewis (D-GA)	Dennis A. Ross (R-FL)
Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (D-GA)	Elizabeth H. Esty (D-CT)	Ted W. Lieu (D-CA)	C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger (D-MD)
Earl Blumenauer (D-OR)	Dwight Evans (D-PA)	Daniel W. Lipinski (D-IL)	Bobby L. Rush (D-IL)
Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE)	John J. Faso (R-NY)	Frank A. LoBiondo (R-NJ)	Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan (D-MP)
Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR)	Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA)	Dave Loebsack (D-IA)	Linda T. Sánchez (D-CA)
Brendan F. Boyle (D-PA)	Bill Foster (D-IL)	Zoe Lofgren (D-CA)	John Sarbanes (D-MD)
Robert A. Brady (D-PA)	Marcia L. Fudge (D-OH)	Alan Lowenthal (D-CA)	Jan Schakowsky (D-IL)
Anthony G. Brown (D-MD)	Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI)	Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM)	Adam B. Schiff (D-CA)
Julia Brownley (D-CA)	Ruben Gallego (D-AZ)	Michelle Lujan Grisham (D-NM)	Robert C. "Bobby" Scott (D-VA)
Cheri Bustos (D-IL)	John Garamendi (D-CA)	Stephen F. Lynch (D-MA)	David Scott (D-GA)
G. K. Butterfield (D-NC)	Jimmy Gomez (D-CA)	Carolyn B. Maloney (D-NY)	Bradley S. Schneider (D-IL)
Michael E. Capuano (D-MA)	Jennifer González-Colón (R-PR)	Sean Patrick Maloney (D-NY)	Pete Sessions (R-TX)
Salud Carbajal (D-CA)	Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ)	Doris Matsui (D-CA)	Carol Shea-Porter (D-NH)
Tony Cárdenas (D-CA)	Al Green (D-TX)	A. Donald McEachin (D-VA)	Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ)
André Carson (D-IN)	Raúl M. Grijalva (D-AZ)	David B. McKinley, P.E. (R-WV)	Albio Sires (D-NJ)
Kathy Castor (D-FL)	Luis V. Gutiérrez (D-IL)	James P. McGovern (D-MA)	Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY)
Judy Chu (D-CA)	Colleen Hanabusa (D-HI)	Jerry McNerney (D-CA)	Adam Smith (D-WA)
David N. Cicilline (D-RI)	Alcee L. Hastings (D-FL)	Patrick Meehan (R-PA)	Darren Soto (D-FL)
Yvette D. Clarke (D-NY)	Denny Heck (D-WA)	Gregory W. Meeks (D-NY)	Jackie Speier (D-CA)
Wm. Lacy Clay (D-MO)	Brian Higgins (D-NY)	Gwen Moore (D-WI)	Elise M. Stefanik (R-NY)
Emanuel Cleaver, II (D-MO)	Jim Himes (D-CT)	Stephanie Murphy (D-FL)	Eric Swalwell (D-CA)
Mike Coffman (R-CO)	Jared Huffman (D-CA)	Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)	Mark Takano (D-CA)
Steve Cohen (D-TN)	Will Hurd (R-TX)	Richard E. Neal (D-MA)	Glenn 'GT' Thompson (R-PA)
Chris Collins (R-NY)	Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX)	Richard M. Nolan (D-MN)	Mike Thompson (D-CA)
Barbara Comstock (R-VA)	Pramila Jayapal (D-WA)	Donald Norcross (D-NJ)	Scott Tipton (R-CO)
Gerald E. Connolly (D-VA)	Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY)	Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)	Dina Titus (D-NV)
J. Luis Correa (D-CA)	Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)	Tom O'Halleran (D-AZ)	Paul Tonko (D-NY)
Joe Courtney (D-CT)	Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr. (D-GA)	Beto O'Rourke (D-TX)	Dave Trott (R-MI)
Kevin Cramer (R-ND)	John Katko (R-NY)	Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ)	Niki Tsongas (D-MA)
Charlie Crist (D-FL)	William R. Keating (D-MA)	Jimmy Panetta (D-CA)	Michael R. Turner (R-OH)
Joe Crowley (D-NY)	Robin L. Kelly (D-IL)	Bill Pascrell, Jr. (D-NJ)	Marc Veasey (D-TX)
Danny K. Davis (D-IL)	Joseph P. Kennedy III (D-MA)	Donald M. Payne, Jr. (D-NJ)	Filemon Vela (D-TX)
Susan A. Davis (D-CA)	Ruben J. Kihuen (D-NV)	Ed Perlmutter (D-CO)	Nydia M. Velázquez (D-NY)
Rodney Davis (R-IL)	Daniel T. Kildee (D-MI)	Scott H. Peters (D-CA)	Tim Walz (D-MN)
Peter A. DeFazio (D-OR)	Ron Kind (D-WI)	Collin C. Peterson (D-MN)	Bonnie Watson Coleman (D-NJ)
Diana DeGette (D-CO)	Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL)	Chellie Pingree (D-ME)	Peter Welch (D-VT)
John K. Delaney (D-MD)	Ann McLane Kuster (D-NH)	Stacey E. Plaskett (D-VI)	Frederica S. Wilson (D-FL)
Suzan K. DelBene (D-WA)	Doug Lamborn (R-CO)	Jared Polis (D-CO)	Joe Wilson (R-SC)
Mark DeSaulnier (D-CA)	Leonard Lance (R-NJ)	Mike Quigley (D-IL)	John Yarmuth (D-KY)
Ted Deutch (D-FL)	James R. Langevin (D-RI)	Jamie Raskin (D-MD)	Ted S. Yoho, D.V.M (R-FL)
Debbie Dingell (D-MI)	John B. Larson (D-CT)	Dave Reichert (R-WA)	Don Young (R-AK)
Lloyd Doggett (D-TX)			
Daniel M. Donovan, Jr. (R-NY)			

*The Alliance is also aware that some legislators send their own letter in support of the Office of Museum Services, or include OMS on a letter listing their priorities. Those efforts are often due directly to advocate outreach to those offices. These individual letters also help our cause and are worthy of thanks on social media! These legislators include Representatives Liz Cheney (R-WY), Sean Duffy (R-WI), Betty McCollum (D-MN), and Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-CA).

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FY 2019 **SENATE** appropriations letter in support of the IMLS Office of Museum Services

Dear Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Murray,

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.

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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, museums invest \$2 billion directly in education programs and 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.

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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.

Kirsten Gillibrand
U.S. Senator

For your reference, here is the list of the **40 Senators who signed on to this letter last year**, led by Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY). This may be an indication that they will be willing to sign the FY 2020 letter this year.

Sen. Tammy Baldwin	(D-WI)
Sen. Richard Blumenthal	(D-CT)
Sen. Cory Booker	(D-NJ)
Sen. Sherrod Brown	(D-OH)
Sen. Maria Cantwell	(D-WA)
Sen. Ben Cardin	(D-MD)
Sen. Tom Carper	(D-DE)
Sen. Bob Casey	(D-PA)
Sen. Christopher Coons	(D-DE)
Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto	(D-NV)
Sen. Joe Donnelly	(D-IN)*
Sen. Tammy Duckworth	(D-IL)
Sen. Richard Durbin	(D-IL)
Sen. Dianne Feinstein	(D-CA)
Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand	(D-NY)
Sen. Maggie Hassan	(D-NH)
Sen. Martin Heinrich	(D-NM)
Sen. Mazie Hirono	(D-HI)
Sen. Tim Kaine	(D-VA)
Sen. Angus King	(I-ME)
Sen. Amy Klobuchar	(D-MN)
Sen. Joe Manchin	(D-WV)
Sen. Ed Markey	(D-MA)
Sen. Robert Menendez	(D-NJ)
Sen. Jeff Merkley	(D-OR)
Sen. Christopher Murphy	(D-CT)
Sen. Bill Nelson	(D-FL)
Sen. Gary Peters	(D-MI)
Sen. Jack Reed	(D-RI)
Sen. Bernie Sanders	(I-VT)
Sen. Brian Schatz	(D-HI)
Sen. Jeanne Shaheen	(D-NH)
Sen. Tina Smith	(D-MN)
Sen. Debbie Stabenow	(D-MI)
Sen. Dan Sullivan	(R-AK)
Sen. Jon Tester	(D-MT)
Sen. Chris Van Hollen	(D-MD)
Sen. Elizabeth Warren	(D-MA)
Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse	(D-RI)
Sen. Ron Wyden	(D-OR)

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