

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 28, 2019

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

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

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole,

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 2020 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.

Congress reauthorized IMLS in late 2018, by enacting the Museum and Library Services Act of 2018 (Public Law No: 115-410). This legislation was passed with widespread bipartisan support by unanimous consent in the Senate and by a vote of 331 to 28 in the House, showing Congress' renewed bipartisan support for the agency's programs and a renewed commitment to its funding. 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 2020 to support the important work museums are doing in our districts. This vital funding

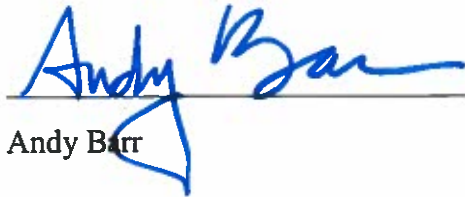
will aid museums of all types and enable them to continue bolstering the economy, serving our schools and communities, and preserving our cultural heritage for future generations.

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



Andy Barr



Chellie Pingree



David B. McKinley, P.E.



Barbara Lee



Jackie Speier



Dina Titus



Brian Higgins



Mike Quigley



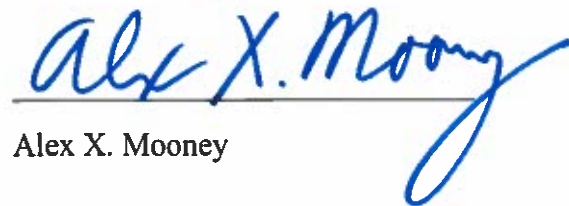
John Katko



Denny Heck



Ted Deutch



Alex X. Mooney



Tony Cárdenas

Donald Norcross

Donald Norcross

Kathleen M. Rice

Kathleen M. Rice

Hakeem Jeffries

Hakeem Jeffries

Eliot L. Engel

Eliot L. Engel

Robin L. Kelly

Robin L. Kelly

Bill Pascrell, Jr.

Bill Pascrell, Jr.

Stacey E. Plaskett

Stacey E. Plaskett

Doug Lamborn

Doug Lamborn

John Garamendi

John Garamendi

Alma Adams

Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.

Brett Guthrie

Brett Guthrie

Wm. Lacy Clay

Wm. Lacy Clay

Judy Chu

Judy Chu

Gregorio Kili Camacho Sablan

Gregorio Kili Camacho Sablan

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.

Steve Cohen

Steve Cohen

John P. Sarbanes

John P. Sarbanes

Jan Schakowsky

Jan Schakowsky

Bill Foster

Bill Foster

William R. Keating

William R. Keating

Marc Veasey

Marc Veasey

Al Green

Al Green

Daniel W. Lipinski

Daniel W. Lipinski

Marcia L. Fudge

Marcia L. Fudge

Scott H. Peters

Scott H. Peters

Emanuel Cleaver, II

Emanuel Cleaver, II

Joe Courtney

Joe Courtney

Suzan K. DelBene

Suzan K. DelBene

Linda T. Sánchez

Linda T. Sánchez

Ben Ray Luján

Ben Ray Luján

Don Young

Don Young

Doris Matsui

Doris Matsui

Richard E. Neal

Richard E. Neal

Carolyn B. Maloney

Carolyn B. Maloney

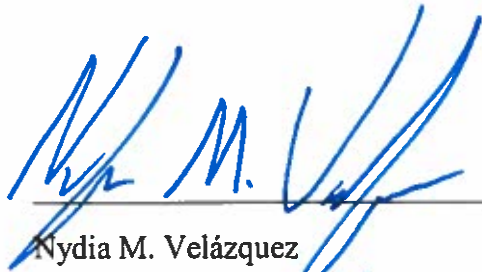
Lloyd Doggett

Lloyd Doggett

Eddie Bernice Johnson

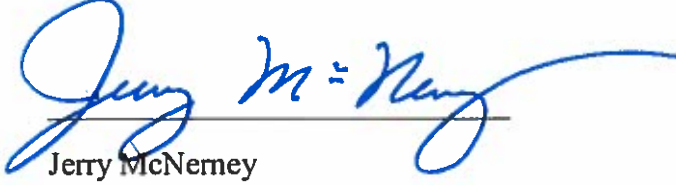
Eddie Bernice Johnson

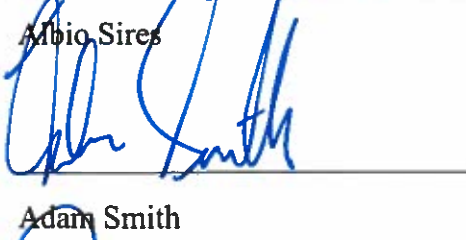

Joyce Beatty

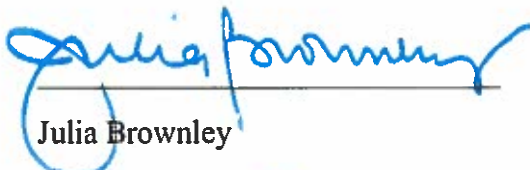

Nydia M. Velázquez

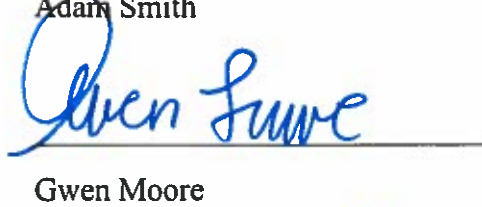

Adam B. Schiff


Albio Sires

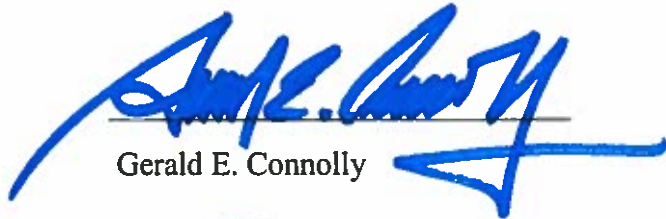

Jerry McNerney


Adam Smith

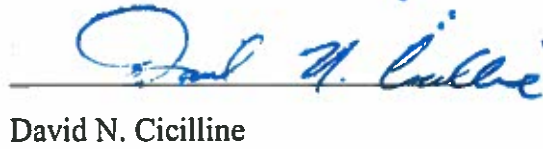

Julia Brownley


Gwen Moore


Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.


Gerald E. Connolly


Steve Stivers


David N. Cicilline


Suzanne Bonamici


C.A. Dutch Ruppberger


Collin C. Peterson


Bobby L. Rush


Peter Welch


Danny K. Davis



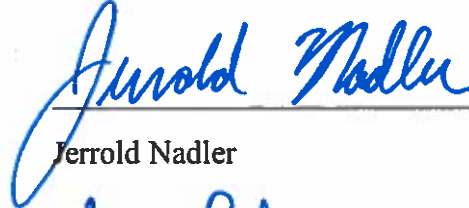
Eleanor H. Norton



André Carson



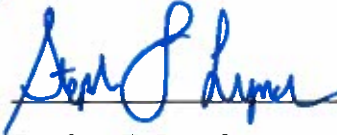
Peter A. DeFazio



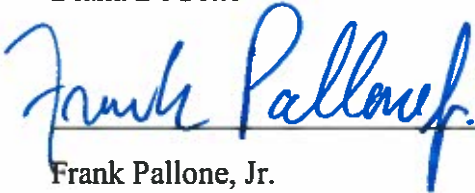
Terrold Nadler



Diana DeGette



Stephen F. Lynch



Frank Pallone, Jr.



Michael R. Turner



G. K. Butterfield



Sheila Jackson Lee



James R. Langevin



Karen Bass



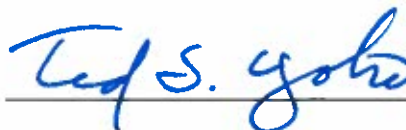
Yvette D. Clarke



Kathy Castor



Rodney Davis



Ted S. Yoho, DVM



Brian Fitzpatrick



Stephanie Murphy



Adriano Espallat



Jennifer González-Colón



Jim Cooper



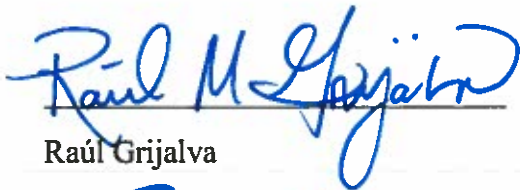
Jimmy Gomez



Angie Craig



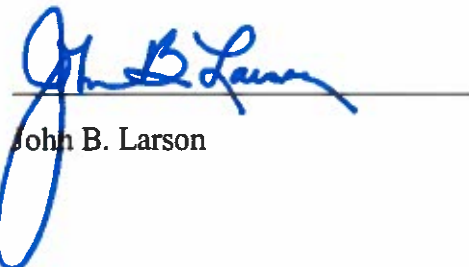
Andy Kim



Raúl Grijalva



Darren Soto



John B. Larson



Lori Trahan



Sharice Davids



Elissa Slotkin



Jared Huffman



Lisa Blunt Rochester



Lucy McBath



Pramila Jayapal



Ron Kind



Joe Wilson

Tulsi Gabbard

Tulsi Gabbard

Salud Carbajal

Salud Carbajal

Al Lawson, Jr.

Al Lawson, Jr.

Anthony G. Brown

Anthony G. Brown

Abigail D. Spanberger

Abigail D. Spanberger

Jason Crow

Jason Crow

Ed Perlmutter

Ed Perlmutter

Jared Golden

Jared Golden

Susan A. Davis

Susan A. Davis

Bradley S. Schneider

Bradley S. Schneider

Jahana Hayes

Jahana Hayes

Zoe Lofgren

Zoe Lofgren

Joseph D. Morelle

Joseph D. Morelle

Cheri Bustos

Cheri Bustos

Jim Himes

Jim Himes

Conor Lamb

Conor Lamb

Jennifer Wexton

Jennifer Wexton

David Trone

David Trone



Dave Loebsock



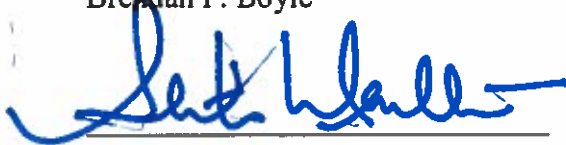
Mikie Sherrill



Brendan F. Boyle



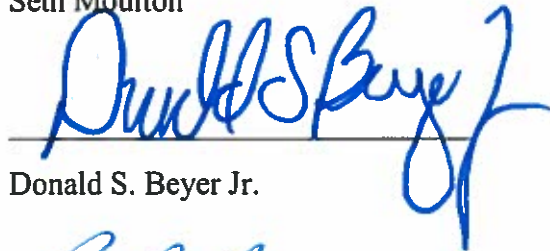
Ruben Gallego



Seth Moulton



Kim Schrier, M.D.



Donald S. Beyer Jr.



Chris Collins



Earl Blumenauer



Ayanna Pressley



Dwight Evans



Anthony Gonzalez



Denver Riggleman



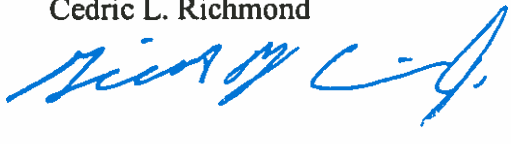
Antonio Delgado



Cedric L. Richmond



Mark DeSaulnier



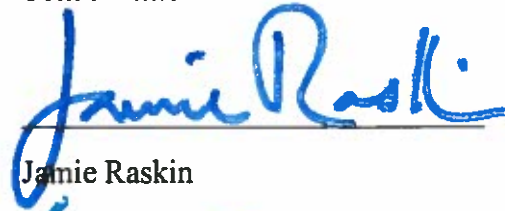
Gilbert R. Cisneros



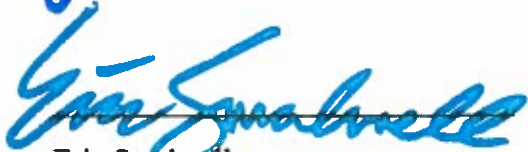
Sean Casten



Tom Malinowski



Jamie Raskin



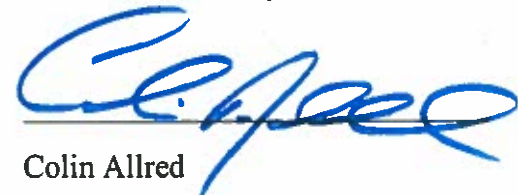
Eric Swalwell



Ted W. Lieu



Glenn "GT" Thompson



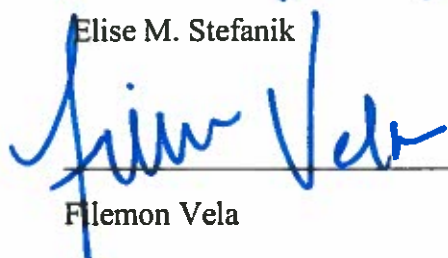
Colin Allred



Chris Pappas



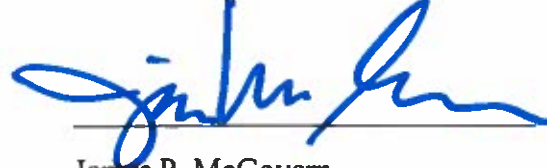
Elise M. Stefanik



Filimon Vela



Mark Takano



James P. McGovern



Mike Thompson



John Yarmuth



Jeff Van Drew



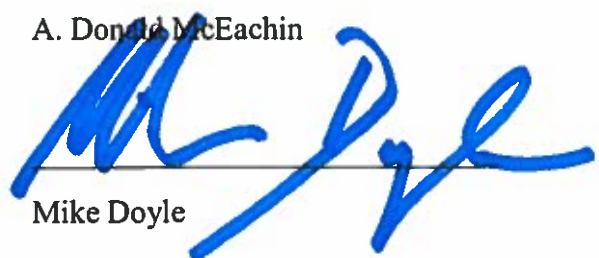
Tom O'Halleran



Ann McLane Kuster



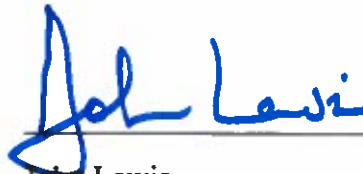
A. Donald McEachin



Mike Doyle



Joseph P. Kennedy, III



John Lewis



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez



Haley M. Stevens



David Scott



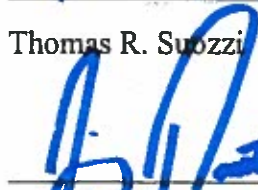
Scott Tipton



Thomas R. Suozzi



Josh Gottheimer



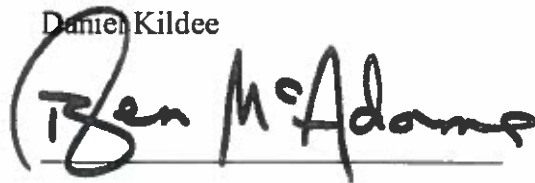
Jimmy Panetta



Daniel Kildee



Anna G. Eshoo



Ben McAdams



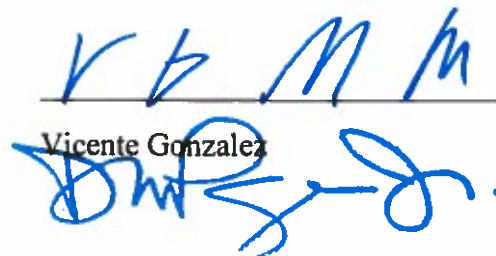
Abby Finkenauer



Debbie Dingell



Raja Krishnamoorthi



Vicente Gonzalez



Alan Lowenthal

Donald M. Payne, Jr.

J. Luis Correa

J. Luis Correa

Jesús G. García

Jesús G. "Chuy" García