

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 15, 2016

The Honorable Michael K. Simpson,
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy & Water
Development, & Related Agencies
2362-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur,
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy & Water
Development, & Related Agencies
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Kaptur:

We write to urge your continued support for key energy efficiency and clean energy programs within the Department of Energy: the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and the State Energy Program (SEP). These programs provide the foundation for clean energy investments that create jobs, increase American competitiveness, save families and businesses money through improved efficiency, and reduce pollution. While we understand the challenges in developing an appropriations bill in a constrained fiscal environment, we respectfully request that you fund WAP at \$230 million and SEP at \$70 million for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017.

The Weatherization Assistance Program helps low-income families, seniors, veterans, and individuals with disabilities improve the energy efficiency of their homes, freeing up limited resources for other essentials like food and medicine. For four decades, WAP has provided weatherization services to more than 7 million low-income households, including 1 million in the past five years. A recent peer-reviewed evaluation by Oak Ridge National Laboratory found that the program is cost effective by even the most conservative estimates. Each Weatherization Assistance dollar produces at least \$2.30 of benefit, and arguably, as much as \$4.10 to the household and society. We respectfully request that WAP is funded at \$230 million, the level included in the President's FY 2017 budget request, which will ensure that all states have the resources to support their weatherization programs that help reduce the burden of high energy prices on low-income families.

The State Energy Program enables states to assist with the development of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, such as improving the efficiency of hospitals and schools, working

with utilities and energy service companies to install clean energy and energy efficiency projects, and supporting private sector energy innovations through business incubators and job training. The Oak Ridge National Laboratory found that for every dollar of federal funding, the SEP leverages over \$10 for energy related economic development. The SEP provides 300,000 energy efficiency technical assistance contacts with consumers and small businesses to aid them in implementing cost-effective actions. We respectfully request that this program be funded at \$70 million, the same level included in the President's FY 2017 budget request.

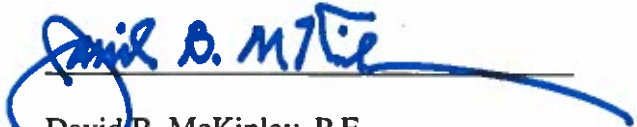
We appreciate your efforts in confronting our country's fiscal challenges and your prioritization of programs that promote job growth. In this spirit, we believe that investments in programs like WAP and SEP that reduce costs for both individuals and businesses, and create greater economic opportunities in communities across the nation, should be maintained.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, and we look forward to working with you on this important matter.

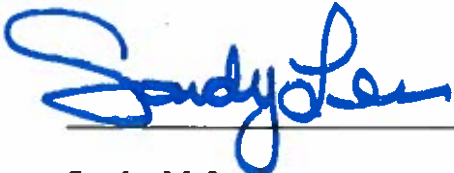
Sincerely,



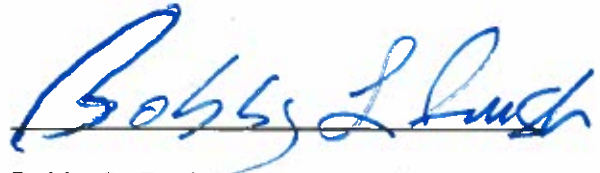
Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



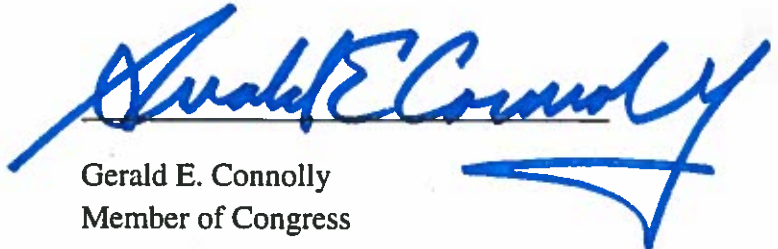
Sander M. Levin
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



Richard L. Hanna
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene
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Matt Cartwright
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Eleanor Holmes Norton
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Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison
Member of Congress



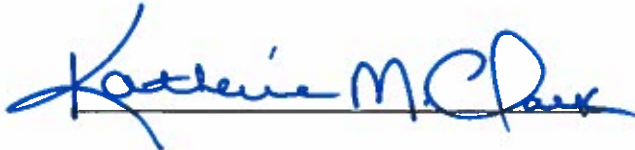
Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress



Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Luján
Member of Congress



Katherine M. Clark
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Mark Takano
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Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



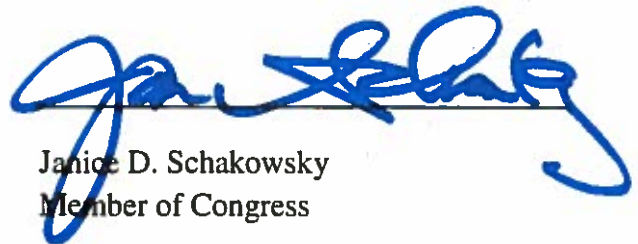
Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



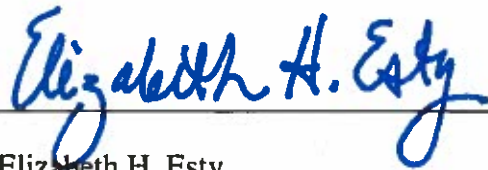
Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



Janice D. Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
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Dina Titus
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David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



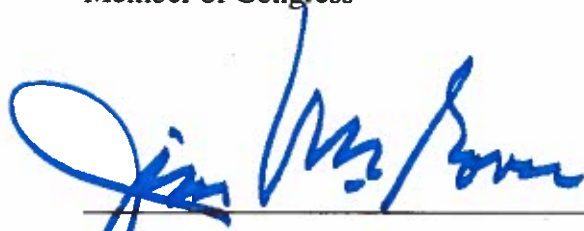
John A. Yarmuth
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Suzanne Bonamici
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Eliot L. Engel
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Kathy Castor
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Ann M. Kuster
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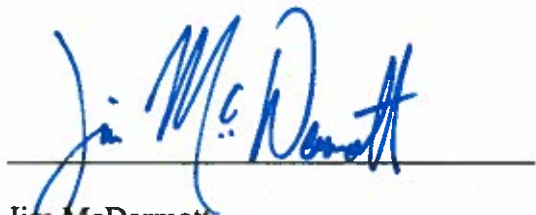
Alan S. Lowenthal
Member of Congress



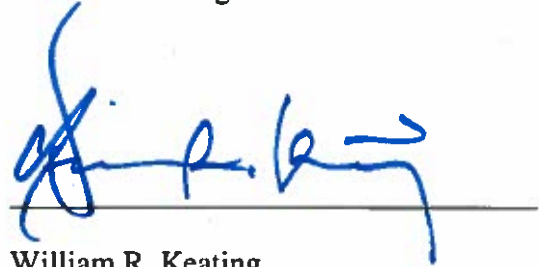
Denny Heck
Member of Congress



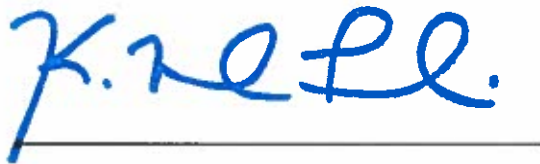
John K. Delaney
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Jim McDermott
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William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Mark Takai
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Seth Moulton
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David Scott
Member of Congress



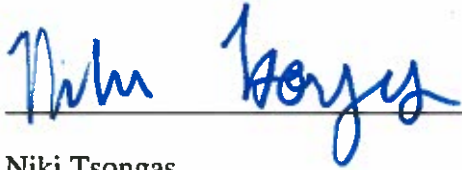
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



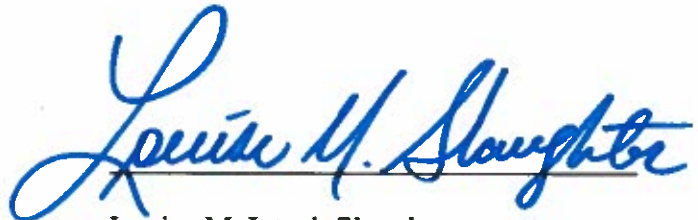
Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



Elijah E. Cummings
Member of Congress



Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



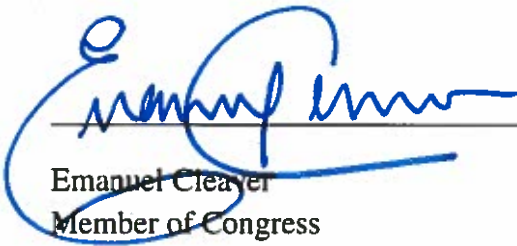
Louise McIntosh Slaughter
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Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



André Carson
Member of Congress



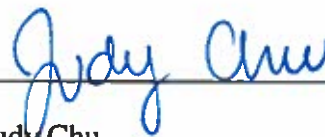
Emanuel Cleaver
Member of Congress



Chaka Fattah
Member of Congress




Bill Foster
Member of Congress




Judy Chu
Member of Congress




Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress



Jared Polis
Member of Congress




John P. Sarbanes
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Alma S. Adams
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David Loebsock
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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress



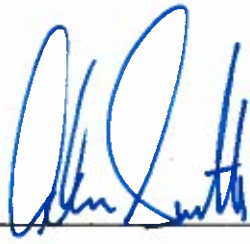
John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Joseph P. Kennedy, III
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Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
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Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



Timothy J. Walz
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Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



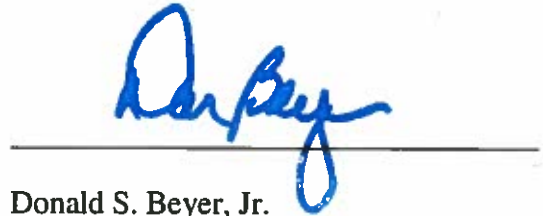
Steve Cohen
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Madeleine Z. Bordallo
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Jim Costa
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Donald S. Beyer, Jr.
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz
Member of Congress



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James R. Langevin
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Michelle Lujan Grisham
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Tulsi Gabbard
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Ted W. Lieu

Ted Lieu
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Aumua Amata

Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen
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Filemon Vela

Filemon Vela
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Raúl M. Grijalva

Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress

Jared Huffman

Jared Huffman
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