

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

April 21, 2016

The Honorable Barack Obama
President of the United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 205000

Dear Mr. President:

We write in strong support of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's Paris Agreement calling for global cooperation on addressing the causes and effects of climate change. We fully support the United States' decision to sign the agreement on the first day it will be open for signature, April 22, 2016, and we hope that other nations will follow our lead. For years, the world has looked to the United States for international leadership and addressing climate change is no different. Through your leadership, the United States is fulfilling a responsibility to lead international action addressing climate change resulting in unprecedented cooperation on the development of the historic Paris Agreement. Your decision to make the United States one of the first parties to sign the agreement is a further demonstration of U.S. leadership and is an important step towards ensuring the Paris Agreement is implemented quickly and that the global community begins in earnest towards achieving the significant goals of the agreement.

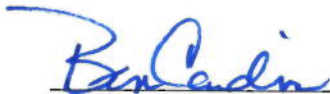
No country is insulated from the increasingly present and escalating effects of climate change. The United States faces numerous challenges: prolonged droughts that affect our food security and water supplies, sea-level rise that threatens millions of Americans residing near our coasts, and expanded range of wildfires and prolonged wildfire seasons are just a few examples. These threats affect the U.S. economy, public health, and national security. Investments to improve the resiliency of our communities at all levels are critically important to our ability to adapt to the impacts of climate change and thrive.

Mitigation of climate change is a national priority that requires national policies to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, like producing significantly more energy from clean and carbon-free sources as a means of achieving the pollution reduction pledge the U.S. made ahead of COP21. Increased investment and deployment of clean energy is sound strategy for reducing carbon pollution that will spur tremendous domestic job growth and expand the U.S. economy

The United States must also be responsive to climate change's impact on our allies in the world's least developed and most vulnerable countries. Defense and national security experts refer to climate change as a "threat multiplier" because of its effects on the safety, stability, and security of many at-risk nations ultimately impacts U.S. security interests. Continued U.S. climate diplomacy and international engagement with our allies, and the most vulnerable nations, will go a long way towards not only saving lives but also preserving global security in the face of uncertain changes in the global environment.

The world must work together to ensure that the goals of the Paris Agreement are realized. U.S. commitment to leadership in this arena has helped start a process that must last beyond your presidency. We are both hopeful that this historic agreement will achieve its monumental goals and stand ready to assist with delivering the United States' lasting commitments to make the agreement a success - for our children, our grandchildren and future generations to come.

Sincerely,



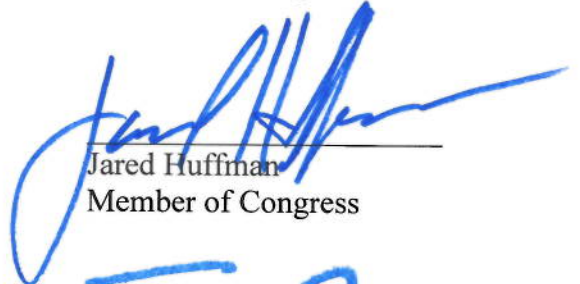
Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



John K. Delaney
Member of Congress



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator



Scott Peters
Member of Congress



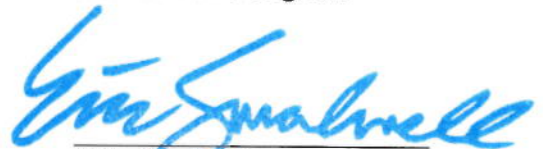
Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



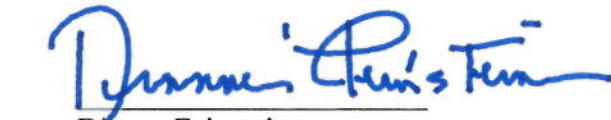
Alan S. Lowenthal
Member of Congress




Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



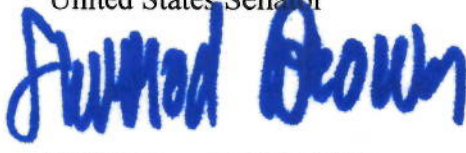
Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress


Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator


Mark Pocan
Member of Congress


Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator

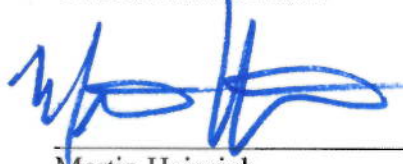

Bill Keating
Member of Congress

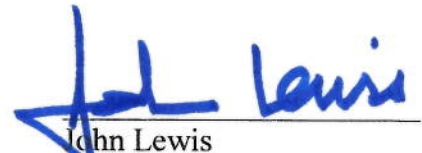

Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

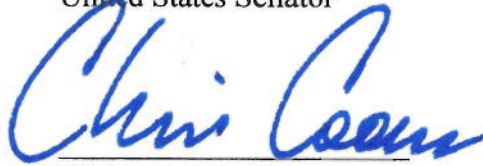

Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress


Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator


Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress


Martin Heinrich
United States Senator


John Lewis
Member of Congress

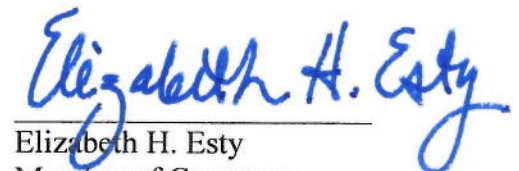

Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator


John Yarmuth
Member of Congress


Barbara Boxer
United States Senator


Janice Hahn
Member of Congress


Al Franken
United States Senator

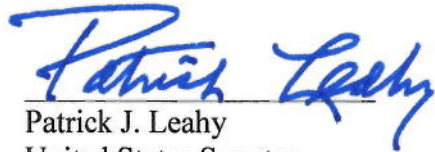

Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress




Kirsten E. Gillibrand
United States Senator



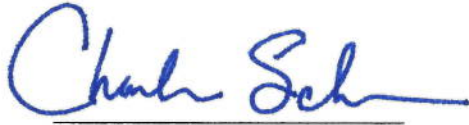
Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



Patrick J. Leahy
United States Senator



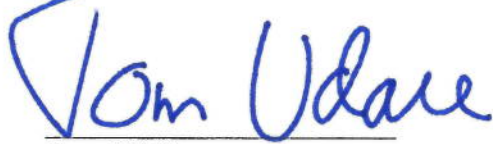
Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



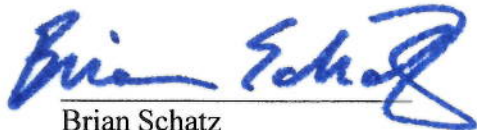
Patrick E. Murphy
Member of Congress



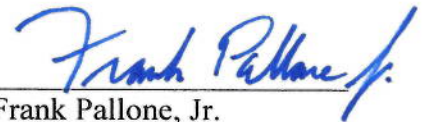
Tom Udall
United States Senator



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Brian Schatz
United States Senator



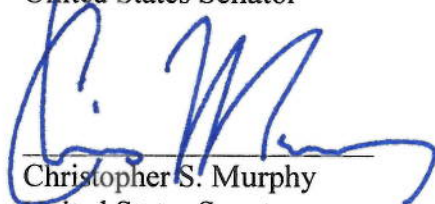
Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



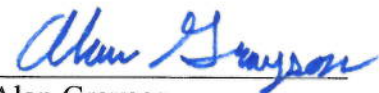
Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



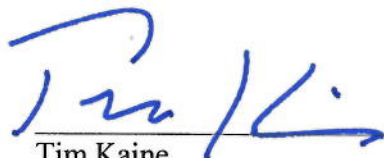
Alan Grayson
Member of Congress



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



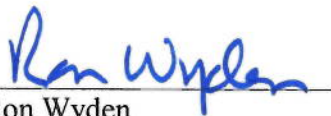
Joseph P. Kennedy, III
Member of Congress



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Ted Lieu
Member of Congress



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Mark Takai
Member of Congress



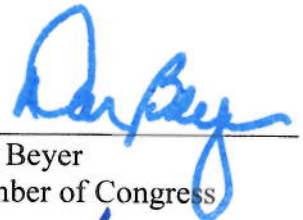
Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



Denny Heck
Member of Congress



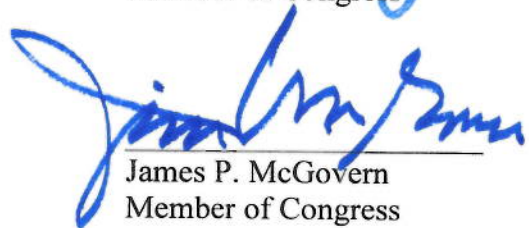
Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator



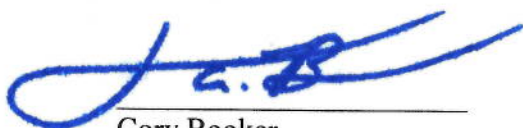
Don Beyer
Member of Congress



Robert Menendez
United States Senator



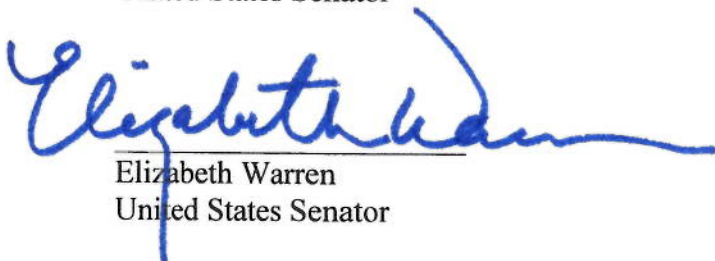
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Cory Booker
United States Senator



Susan Davis
Member of Congress



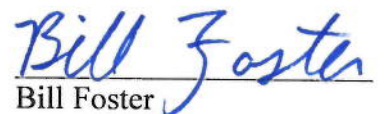
Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress




Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



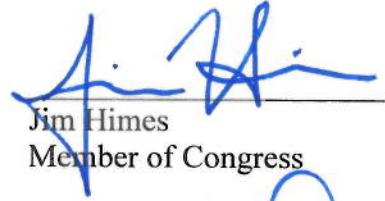
Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



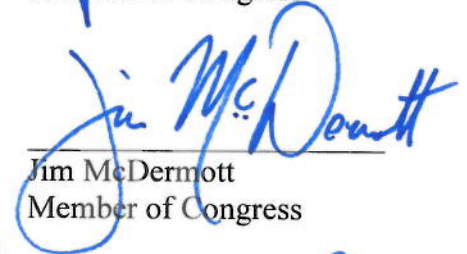
Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



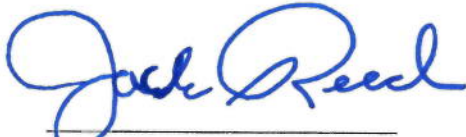
Jim Himes
Member of Congress



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Jim McDermott
Member of Congress



Jack Reed
United States Senator



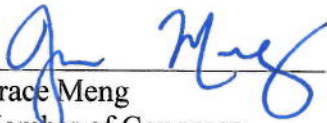
Brenda L. Lawrence
Member of Congress



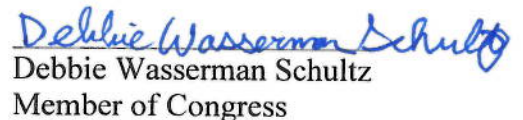
Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



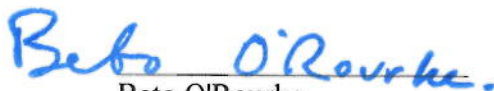
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Grace Meng
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



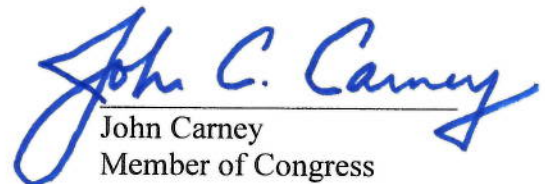
Beto O'Rourke
Member of Congress



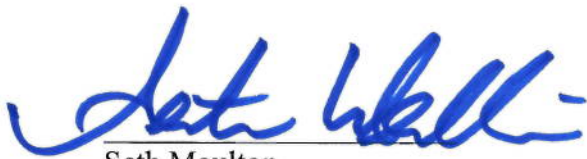
Sam Farr
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



John Carney
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



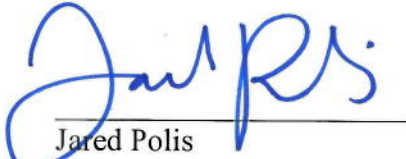
Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



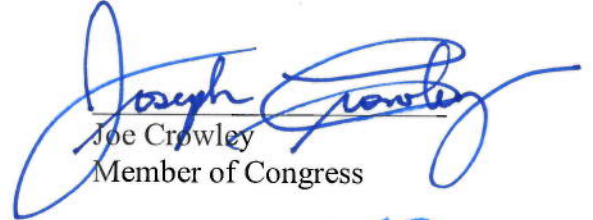
Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress



Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress



Jared Polis
Member of Congress



Joe Crowley
Member of Congress



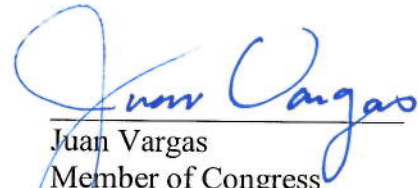
Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress



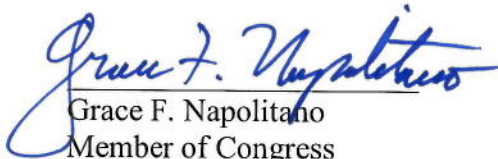
Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress



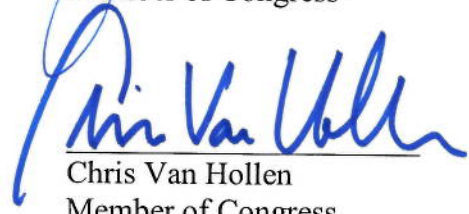
Ami Bera
Member of Congress



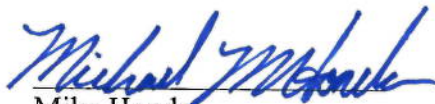
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress




Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Mike Honda
Member of Congress



Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



Katherine Clark
Member of Congress



David Price
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Corrine Brown
Member of Congress



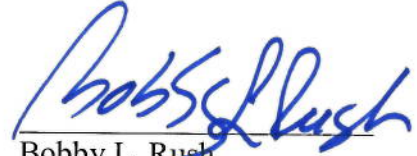
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



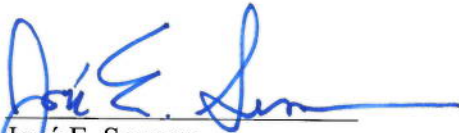
Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



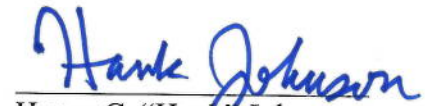
José E. Serrano
Member of Congress



Lois Capps
Member of Congress



Gerry Connolly
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson
Member of Congress




David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



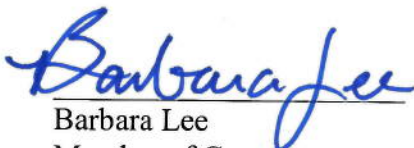
Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



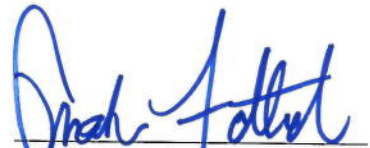
Keith Ellison
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Chaka Fattah
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



Linda F. Sanchez
Member of Congress



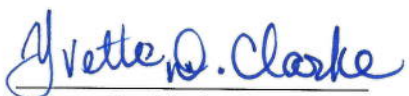
Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress



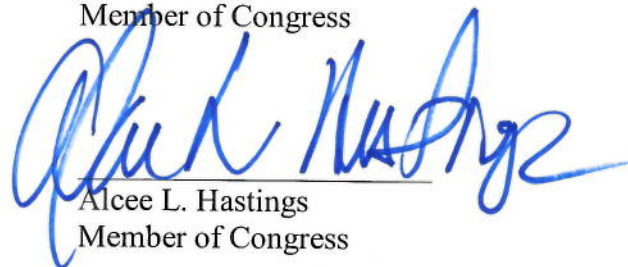
Emanuel Cleaver
Member of Congress



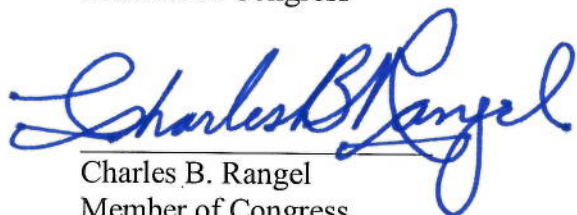
Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



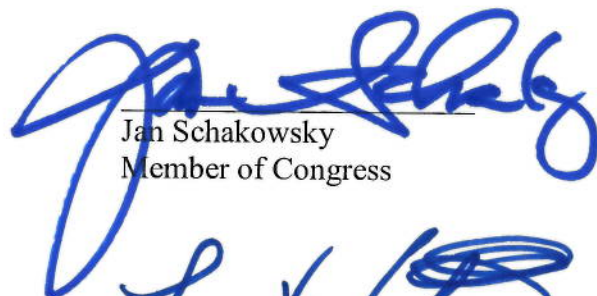
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



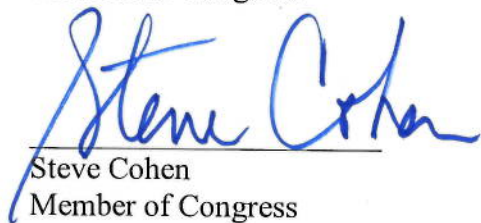
Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress



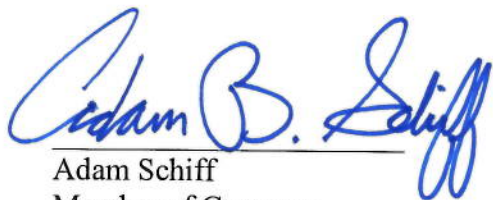
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Luis V. Gutierrez
Member of Congress



Adam Schiff
Member of Congress



Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress





C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress


John Conyers
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress


Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress


Theodore E. Deutch
Member of Congress


Andre' Carson
Member of Congress


Steve Israel
Member of Congress


Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

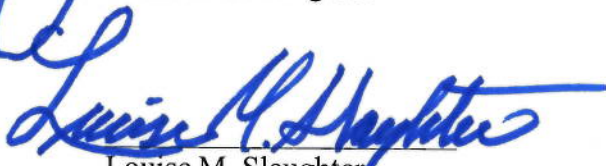

Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress



Paul Tonko
Member of Congress


Jackie Speier
Member of Congress

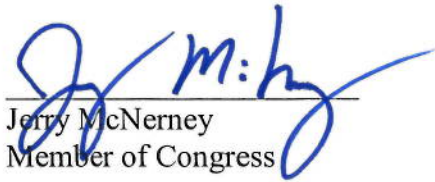

Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress


Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress



Tony Cardenas
Member of Congress


Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress


Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



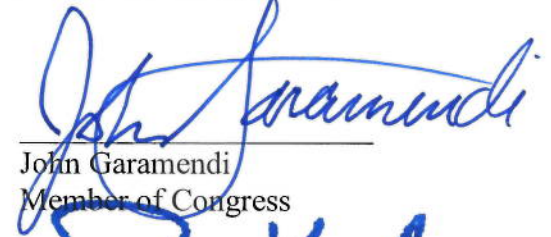
Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Lujan
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress



Ron Kind
Member of Congress



James R. Langevin
Member of Congress