

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

April 27, 2022

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, and Education  
Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, and Education  
Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

We are writing to respectfully request robust funding for the *Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act* (Perkins) in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill. We urge you to consider the positive impact that Perkins Act funding has on millions of career and technical education (CTE) students across the United States, as well as its value to the business community, which relies on these programs for a skilled workforce.

We are grateful that Perkins state grants were funded at \$1.380 billion in FY22, an increase of \$45 million over the FY21 level. However, adjusted for inflation, FY22 levels remain over \$400 million below where they were fifteen years ago, despite the fact that more than 11 million CTE students rely on this funding at the secondary and postsecondary level.

The House Education and Labor Committee has long recognized the importance of strong dedicated Perkins funding. In the 113th Congress, Perkins was intentionally exempted from efforts to consolidate program funding under the bipartisan *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act*. In 2015, CTE programs were explicitly left out of the *Every Student Succeeds Act* in recognition of the importance of direct and targeted investment in CTE. More recently, Congress recognized CTE as an effective workforce development and educational strategy when it passed H.R. 2353, the *Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act*, reauthorizing the Perkins Act in July 2018 (Public Law No. 115-224).

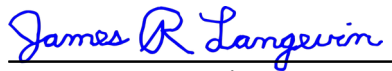
In the past decades, the American economy has undergone a dramatic series of transformations, most recently due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Employers of all sizes are increasingly seeking individuals with specialized skills and career competencies in order to thrive in a rapidly evolving job market. Moreover, this new American economy is demanding higher levels of foundational skills from its workers, including creativity and innovation, the ability to think critically and solve complex problems, and collaborative work skills. These requirements cut across every occupation and industry sector and are now a prerequisite for worker success.

Put simply, jobs in our economy are changing and our education and training systems must keep pace if America wants to recover from the current economic devastation and remain competitive on the world stage. A commitment to high-quality CTE is key to meeting this challenge and is central to rebuilding the American economy and empowering every American worker.

We are hopeful your Subcommittee will continue this bipartisan commitment to Perkins in FY23. As CTE programs evolve to meet the needs of employers in high-wage, high-skill, or in-demand career fields, such as skilled trades and information technology, which have hundreds of thousands of open positions across the country, we must provide strong federal support for these programs.

CTE ensures that students have the academic, technical, and employability skills necessary for true college and career readiness, and Perkins funding is key to their continued success. Therefore, we respectfully urge your strong support for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act in FY23. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

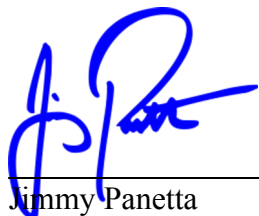
Sincerely,



James R. Langevin  
Member of Congress



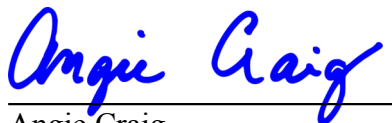
Glenn "GT" Thompson  
Member of Congress




Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress



Peter A. DeFazio  
Member of Congress



Angie Craig  
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



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Gregorio Kilili Camacho  
Sablan  
Member of Congress



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Jenniffer González-Colón  
Member of Congress



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Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



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Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



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Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



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Elaine G. Luria  
Member of Congress



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Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



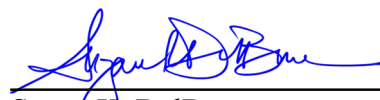
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John Katko  
Member of Congress



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Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



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Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



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John Yarmuth  
Member of Congress



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Conor Lamb  
Member of Congress



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Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



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David N. Cicilline  
Member of Congress



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Tom Malinowski  
Member of Congress



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Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



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Albio Sires  
Member of Congress



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Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



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Vicky Hartzler  
Member of Congress



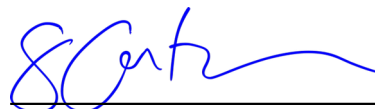
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Lucy McBath  
Member of Congress



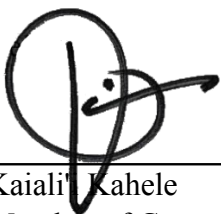
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Mike Doyle  
Member of Congress



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Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



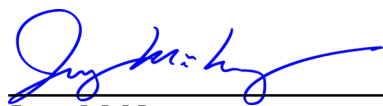
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Kaiali'i Kahele  
Member of Congress



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Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress



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Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress



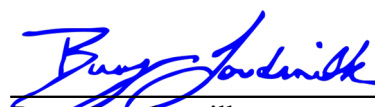
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Anthony G. Brown  
Member of Congress



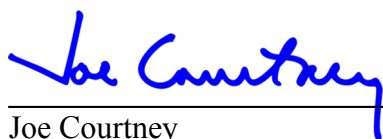
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Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress



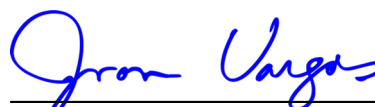
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Barry Loudermilk  
Member of Congress



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Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



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Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



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Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



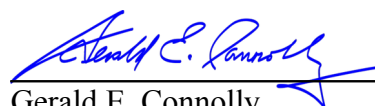
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Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



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Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



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Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



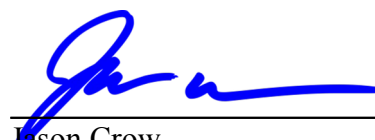
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Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress



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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



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Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



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Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



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Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress



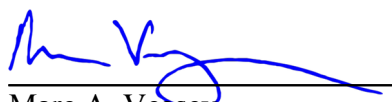
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Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



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Sam Graves  
Member of Congress



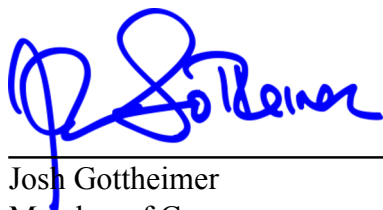
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Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



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Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



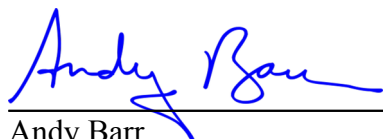
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Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



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Ron Kind  
Member of Congress



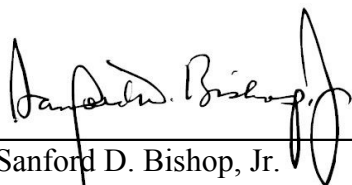
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Andy Barr  
Member of Congress



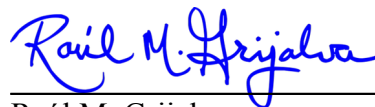
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Andrew R. Garbarino  
Member of Congress




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Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Chairman, House  
Appropriations Subcommittee  
on Agriculture, Rural  
Development, Food and Drug  
Administration, and Related  
Agencies



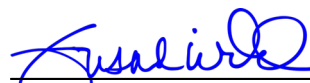
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Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



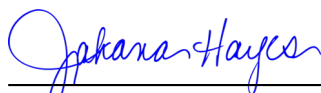
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Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



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Susan Wild  
Member of Congress



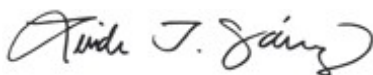
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Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



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Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



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Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



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Debbie Lesko  
Member of Congress





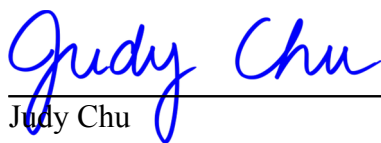
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Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



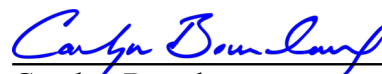
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Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



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Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



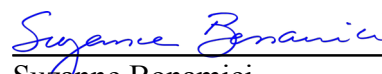
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Carolyn Bourdeaux  
Member of Congress



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André Carson  
Member of Congress



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Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



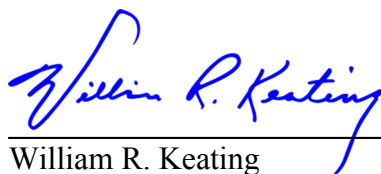
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Antonio Delgado  
Member of Congress



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Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress



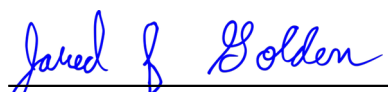
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William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



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Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress



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Jared Golden  
Member of Congress



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Tom O'Halleran  
Member of Congress




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Karen Bass  
Member of Congress



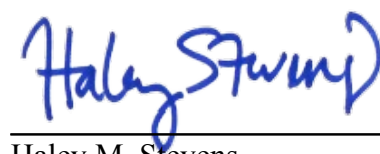
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David Scott  
Member of Congress



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Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress



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Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress




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Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress



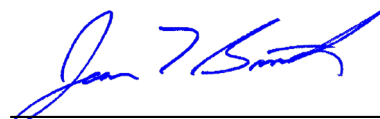
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Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress




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Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



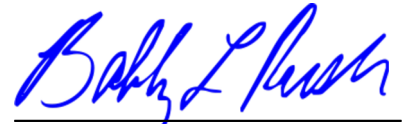
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Jason Smith  
Member of Congress




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Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress




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Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress



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Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress



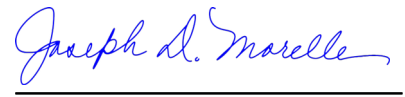
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Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress




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Peter Meijer M.C.  
Member of Congress




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Joseph D. Morelle  
Member of Congress




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Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



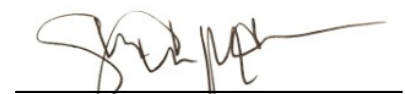
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Don Bacon  
Member of Congress



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Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress




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Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress



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Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



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Tom Emmer  
Member of Congress



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Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Cynthia Axne  
Member of Congress



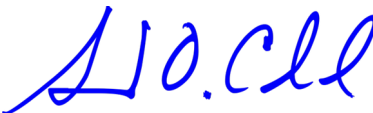
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Earl L. "Buddy" Carter  
Member of Congress



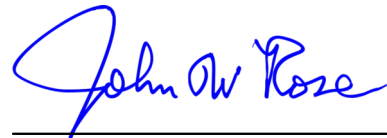
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Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



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Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



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John Rose  
Member of Congress



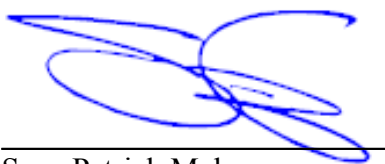
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A. Donald McEachin  
Member of Congress



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Val Butler Demings  
Member of Congress



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Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress



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Marie Newman  
Member of Congress



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Mike Kelly  
Member of Congress



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Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



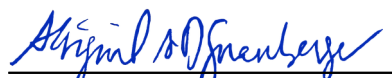
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C. Scott Franklin  
Member of Congress



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Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



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Abigail Davis Spanberger  
Member of Congress



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Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



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Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



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Al Lawson  
Member of Congress



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Colin Z. Allred  
Member of Congress



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Adam Kinzinger  
Member of Congress



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Elissa Slotkin  
Member of Congress



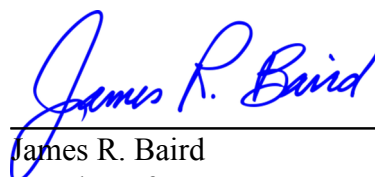
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Lloyd Smucker  
Member of Congress



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Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress



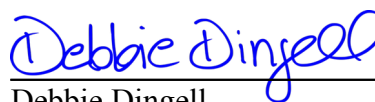
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James R. Baird  
Member of Congress



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Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



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Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



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John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



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Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



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Kurt Schrader  
Member of Congress



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Michelle Steel  
Member of Congress



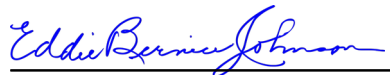
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Nancy Mace  
Member of Congress



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Rick W. Allen  
Member of Congress



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Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Member of Congress