

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 31, 2017

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Carter
Chairman
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Frelinghuysen and Carter and Ranking Members Lowey and Roybal-Allard:

As you begin work on the FY 2018 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill, we urge you to maintain funding at \$100 million for the Port Security Grant Program (PSGP). As you know, funds made available by the PSGP are used to protect critical port infrastructure from criminal and terrorist attacks—both physical and cyber. While the needs of our ports have grown, funding for the PSGP has not kept pace. In order to ensure our ports receive the critical funding they need, it is vital that this program remains funded at \$100 million.

Ports in many ways serve as the linchpin to our economy. Each of our 50 states, whether it be California or Oklahoma, depends on at least 15 ports to import and export its goods. Our ports are responsible for transporting 99 percent of the country's overseas cargo, totaling \$3.8 billion worth of goods each day. Additionally, each year American seaports generate \$4.6 trillion and employ 23 million people all over the country. Given the importance of ports to our national economy, it is vital that they remain secure.

However, the security of our seaports has been largely ignored. Ports continue to face emerging cyber, nuclear, radiological, and chemical threats that we believe call for a larger spotlight on our port security efforts. It is imperative that we make sure that our ports have the resources they need to successfully prevent, counter, and recover from a potential terrorist attack. According to the Brookings Center for 21st Century Security and Intelligence, it would only take a small attack on our ports to grind U.S. commerce to a halt within days.

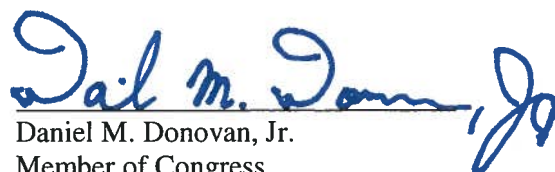
In working directly with ports throughout the nation, we are extremely conscious of the current economic pressure they face, their substantial contributions to the national economy, and the broad level of vulnerability they are up against. We appreciate the support that the committee has given to this program in previous years. Due to the program's importance to the vital interests of our nation and our ports, we respectfully urge you to fund the Port Security Grant Program at \$100 million in the FY 2018 Homeland Security Appropriations bill.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request to continue protecting our critical port infrastructure.

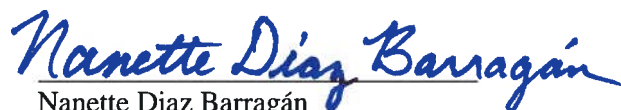
Sincerely,



Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



Daniel M. Donovan, Jr.
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragan
Member of Congress



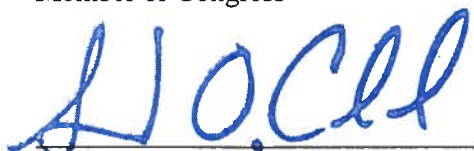
Carlos Curbelo
Member of Congress



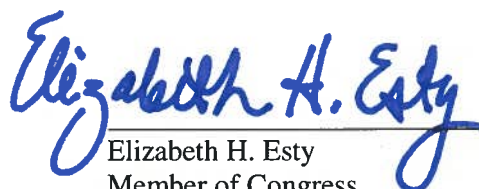
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress



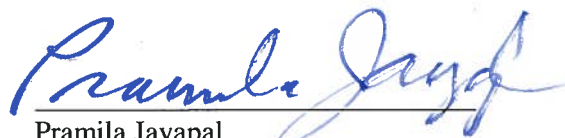
Salud O. Carbajal
Member of Congress



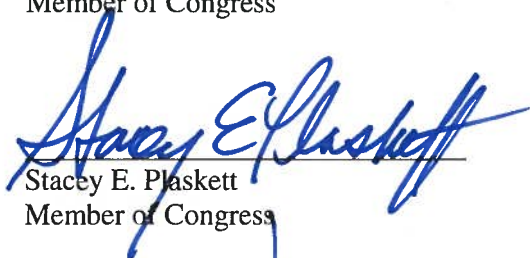
Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress



A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress



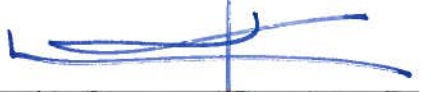
Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



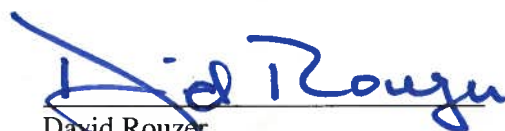
Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress



Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress



Colleen Hanabusa
Member of Congress



David Rouzer
Member of Congress



Denny Heck
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress




Dennis A. Ross
Member of Congress



Filemon Vela
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel
Member of Congress




J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



Scott Peters
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



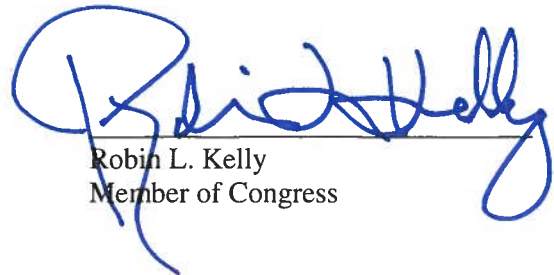
Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Stephanie Murphy
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



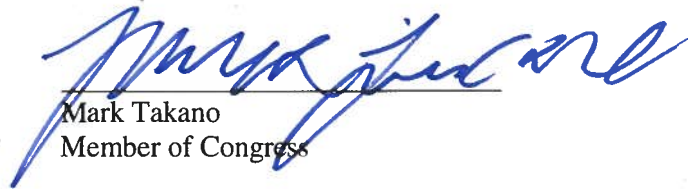
Al Lawson
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



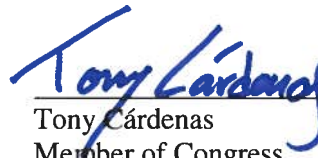
Darren Soto
Member of Congress



Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress



Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress



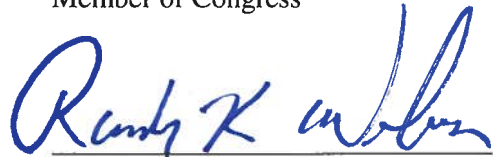
Carol Shea-Porter
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Randy Weber
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



James R. Langevin
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Pete Olson
Member of Congress



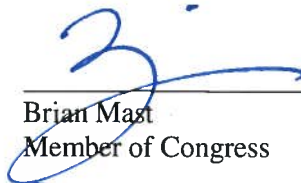
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Elijah E. Cummings
Member of Congress



Brian Mast
Member of Congress



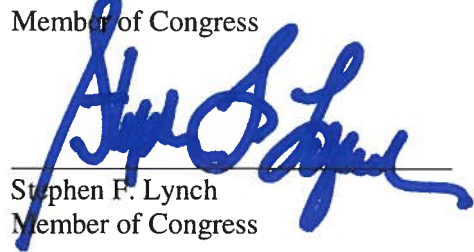
Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



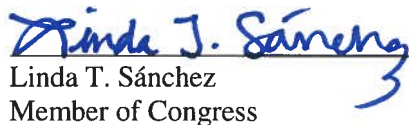
Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



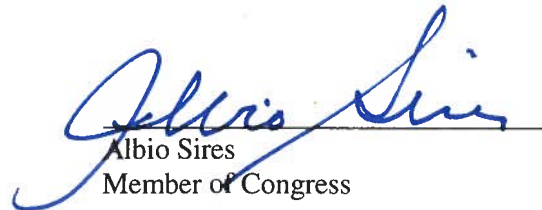
Don Young
Member of Congress



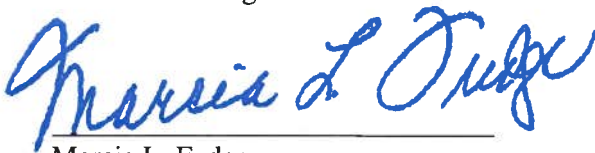
Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Blake Farenthold
Member of Congress



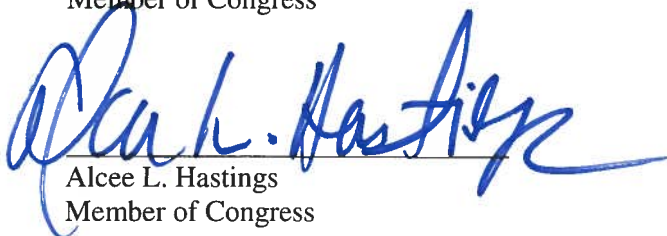
Albio Sires
Member of Congress



Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



Richard M. Nolan
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



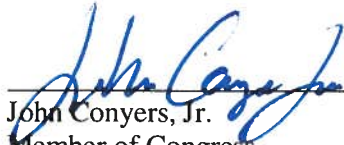
Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
Member of Congress



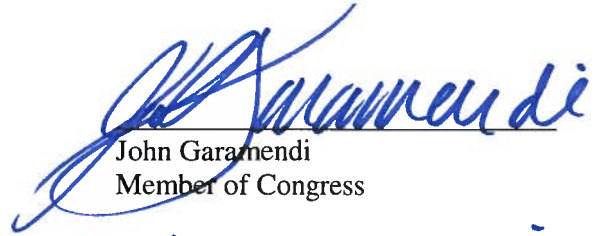
Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger
Member of Congress



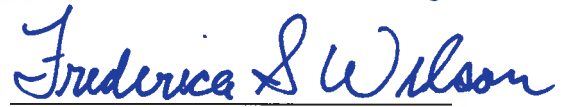
John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Madeleine Z. Bordallo
Member of Congress



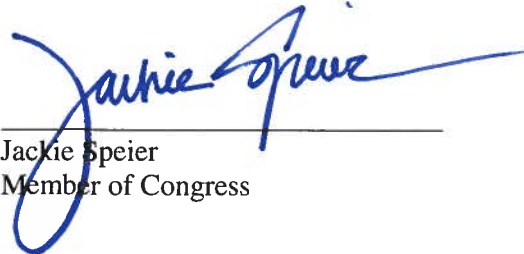
Frederica Wilson
Member of Congress



Ted Deutch
Member of Congress



Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress



Jackie Speier
Member of Congress



Gene Green
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Bradley Byrne
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress

Tulsi Gabbard

Tulsi Gabbard
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