

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 19, 2013

The Honorable Jack Kingston
Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee
Labor, Health and Human Services,
Education and Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Kingston and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Services gathers information on its upcoming Fiscal Year 2014 House Appropriations bill, we respectfully request your consideration of the critical needs of America's youth. We urge you to fully fund the Job Corps program.

Job Corps works and so do its students and is worth the investment. It has and continues to play a pivotal role in the success of our nation's youth. For almost 50 years Job Corps has been America's premier drop out recovery and career preparation program for our most vulnerable undereducated and unemployed youth. It is the largest residential, career technical training and education program for low income students ages 16 – 24. Even during high unemployment, Job Corps can boast that 85 percent of its graduates find jobs, enroll in higher education or enlist in the military. The 125 local centers work closely with thousands of employers and small businesses to prepare the next generation of workers and customize vocational training.

Despite the clear benefits of the program, Job Corps' fiscal stability is in jeopardy. On January 28, 2013, Job Corps implemented a temporary suspension of new student enrollments. To date, the enrollment suspension is still in place. According to the Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration, the suspension was put into place to address its over-obligation of Job Corps operational funds that resulted in a \$61.5 million shortfall. As a result, more than 10,000 students have been denied entrance into the program and hundreds of staff have been laid off. Nearly 28,000 students will be unable to participate and 10,000 staff will lose their jobs if the suspension lasts through June 30, 2013.

With the unemployment rate at 16.3 percent for youths ages 16-24, Job Corps must serve as many students as possible. Fully funding Job Corps is critically necessary to accomplish this, especially considering the impending sequester, which will result in a loss of an additional \$70 million from the program's budget. We strongly support Job Corps and urge the Subcommittee to support the program in the FY 2014 Labor-HHS Appropriations bill.

Sincerely,



Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress



Chaka Fattah
Member of Congress



Pedro R. Pierluisi
Member of Congress



Karen Bass
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



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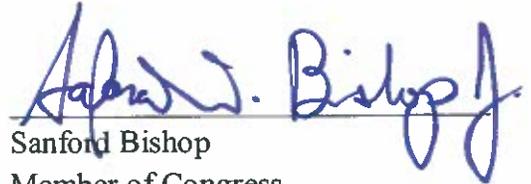
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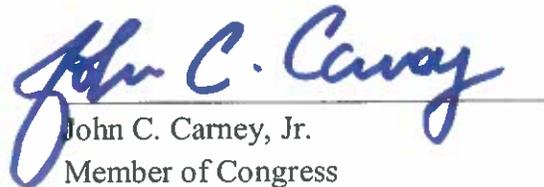
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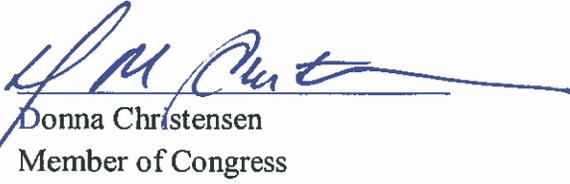
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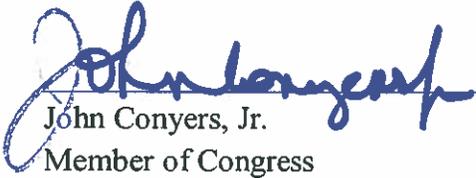
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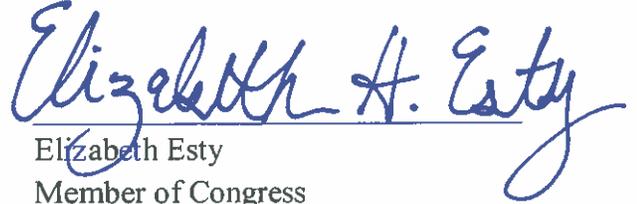
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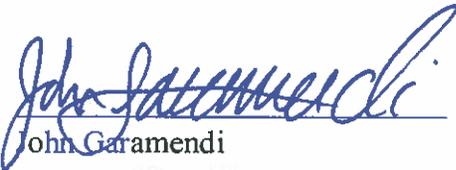
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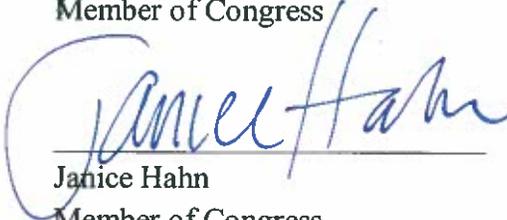
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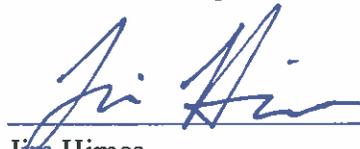
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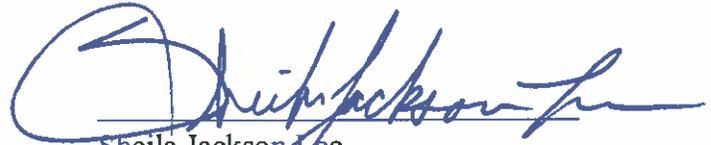
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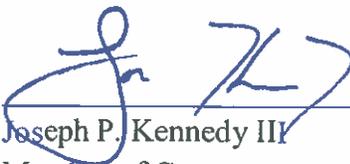
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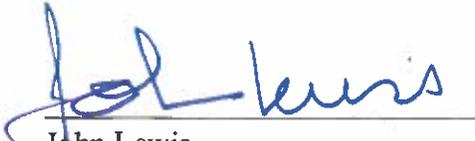
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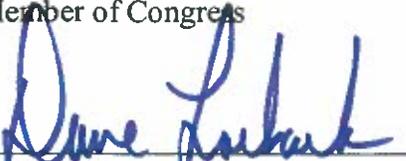
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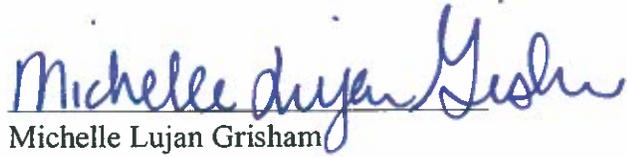
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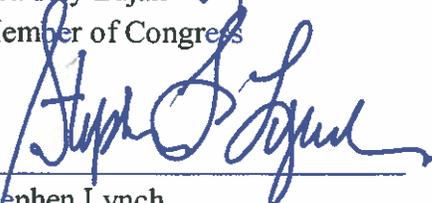
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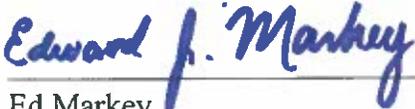
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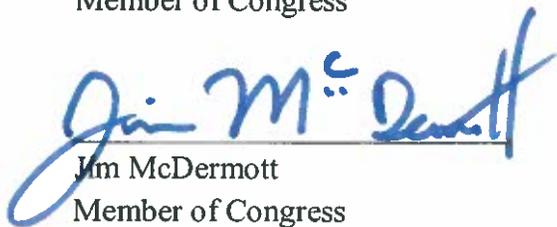
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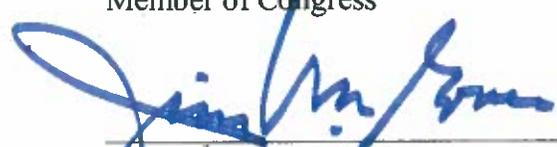
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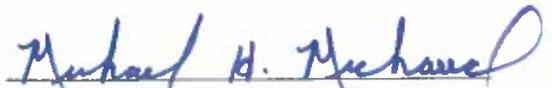
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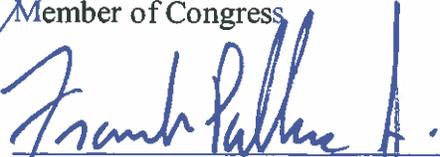
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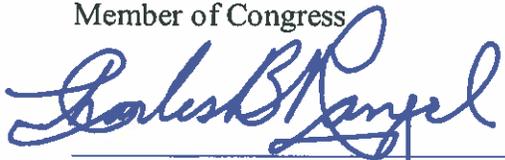

Gary Miller
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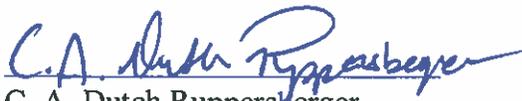

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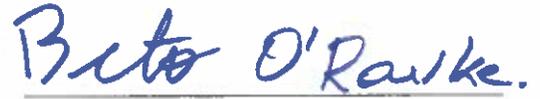

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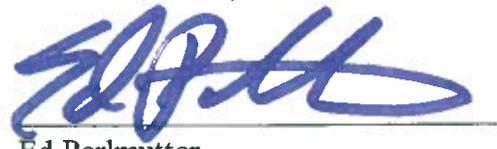

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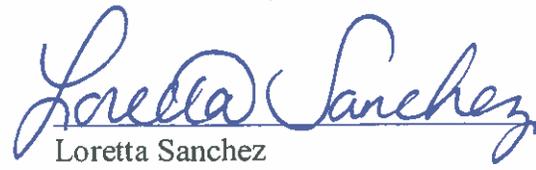

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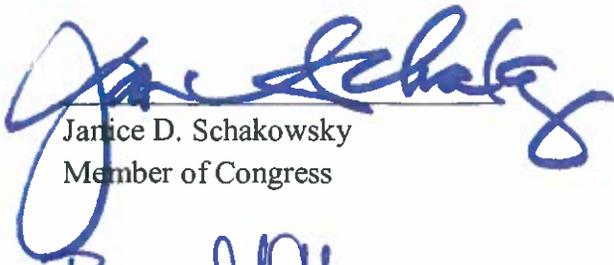

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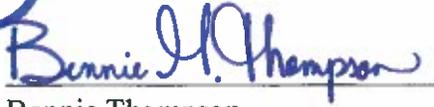

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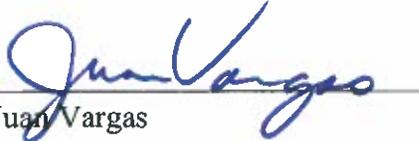
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Tulsi Gabbard
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Ami Bera
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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
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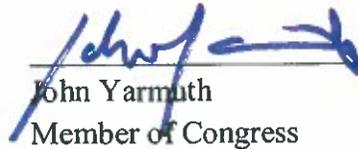
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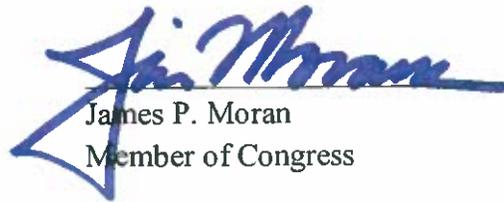
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