

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 19, 2018

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Human Services and Education
2358 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Human Services and Education
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

We are writing to respectfully request strong funding for the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act (Perkins) in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill. While we understand that the committee is faced with difficult choices to ensure fiscal responsibility, 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.

While we are pleased that Perkins funding has been maintained at \$1.125 billion since FY2014, it has not kept pace with the growing demand for career and technical education, resulting in a high number of students being placed on waiting lists for CTE courses. Moreover, any reduction in Perkins funding will result in lost job opportunities for young workers and adults looking to reenter the workforce.

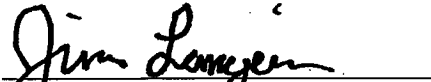
The House Education and Workforce Committee has long recognized the importance of strong and independent Perkins funding. In the 113th Congress, Perkins was intentionally exempted from efforts to consolidate program funding under the bipartisan Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. In 2015, CTE programs were explicitly left out of the Every Student Succeeds Act in recognition of the importance of direct and targeted investment in CTE. Furthermore, this Congress, the House passed H.R. 2353, the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act, a bill to reauthorize the Perkins Act, by a voice vote.

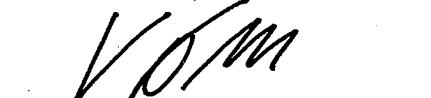
We are hopeful your Subcommittee will continue this bipartisan commitment to Perkins. As CTE programs evolve to meet the needs of employers in high-wage, high-skill, and high-demand career fields, such as engineering, information technology, and healthcare, it is more important than ever that we provide robust federal support for these programs.


CTE works to ensure 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 FY2019. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

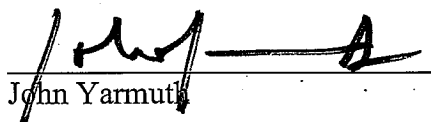
Sincerely,


James R. Langevin

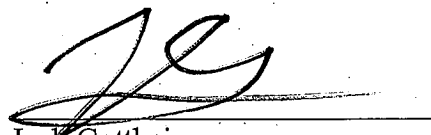

Vicente Gonzalez


Rob Bishop


Tom O'Halleran



John Yarmuth



Ann McLane Kuster


Josh Gottheimer

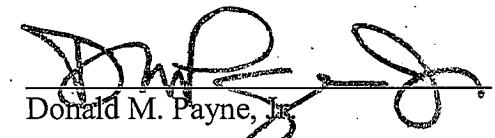

Mia Love

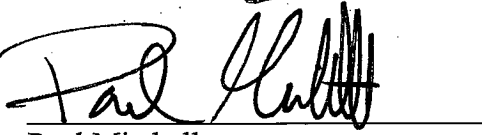

Glenn 'GT' Thompson

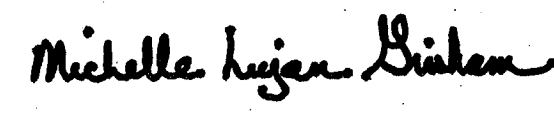

Mark DeSaulnier

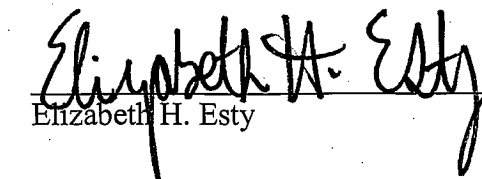

Alan Lowenthal

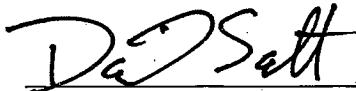

Eric Swalwell

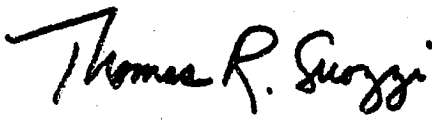

Donald M. Payne, Jr.



Paul Mitchell


Michelle Lujan Grisham

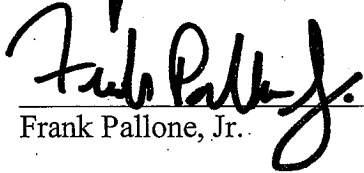

Elizabeth H. Esty

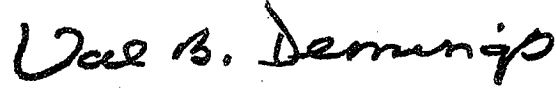

David Scott

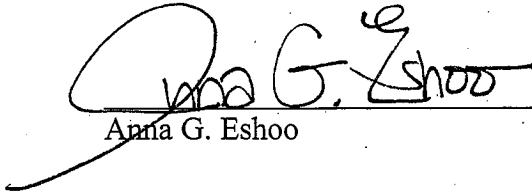

Thomas R. Suzzo



Jimmy Panetta


Mike Thompson

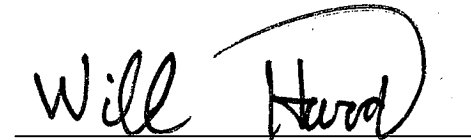

Frank Pallone, Jr.


Val Butler Demings

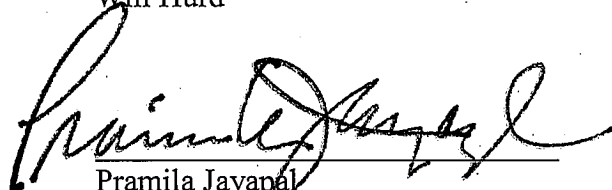

Anna G. Eshoo

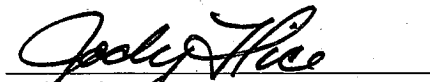

Ruben Kihuenn

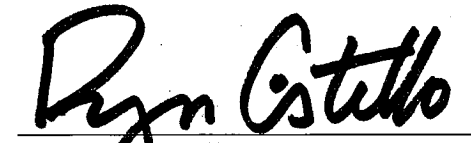

A. Donald McEachin

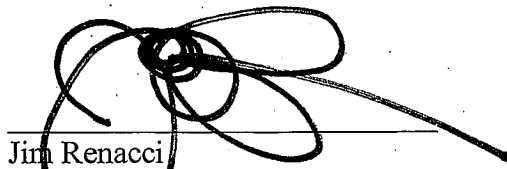

Will Hurd

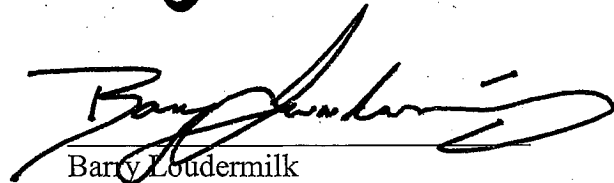

Elise M. Stefanik

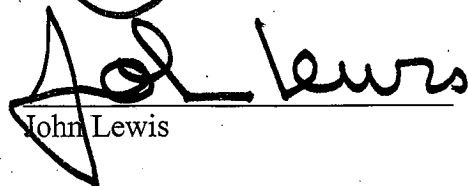

Pramila Jayapal

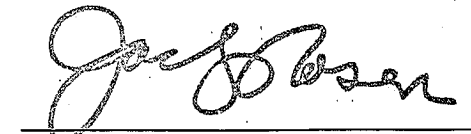

Jody Hice


Ryan A. Costello


Jim Renacci


Barry Loudermilk


John Lewis

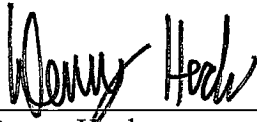

Jacky Rosen



Ralph Abraham, M.D.



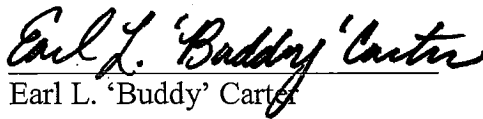
Cedric L. Richmond



Denny Heck



Charlie Crist



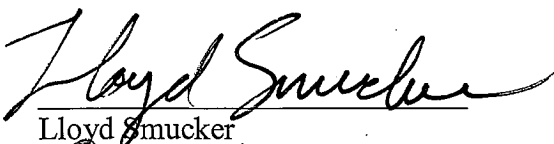
Earl L. 'Buddy' Carter



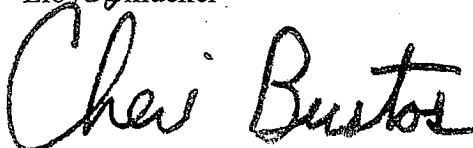
Filemon Vela



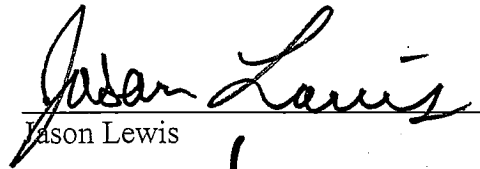
Tom MacArthur



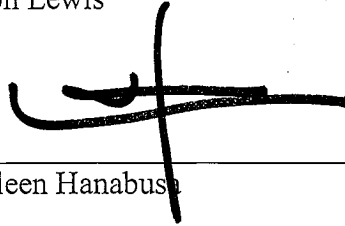
Lloyd Smucker



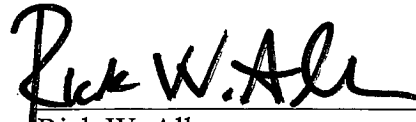
Cheri Bustos



Jason Lewis



Colleen Hanabusa



Rick W. Allen



Jamie Raskin



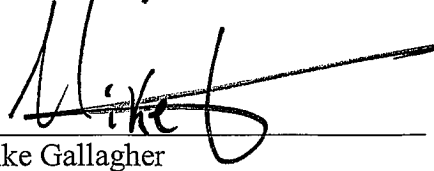
Joseph P. Kennedy, III



Suzanne Bonamici



Raja Krishnamoorthi



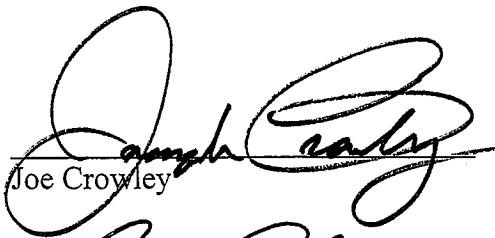
Mike Gallagher



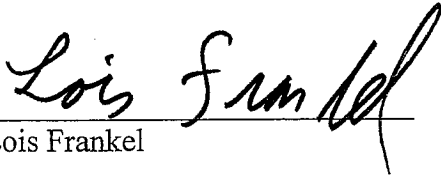
Steve Stivers



A. Drew Ferguson, D.M.D.



Joe Crowley



Lois Frankel



Rod Blum



Earl Blumenauer



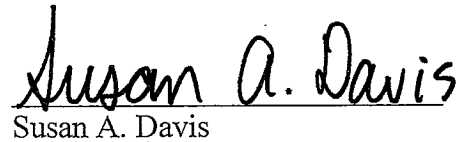
Scott H. Peters



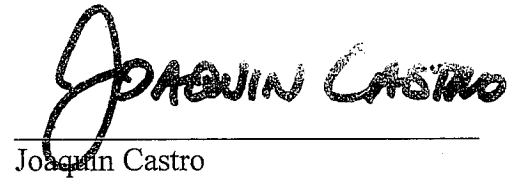
Brendan Boyle



Brenda L. Lawrence



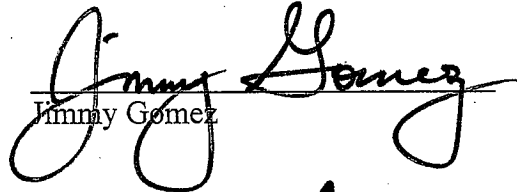
Susan A. Davis



Joaquin Castro



Bill Foster



Jimmy Gomez



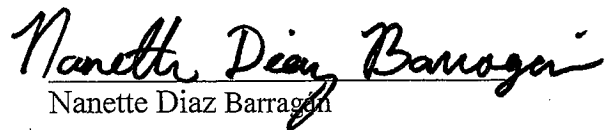
Jim Himes



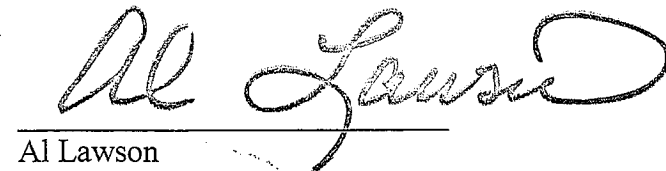
Sander M. Levin



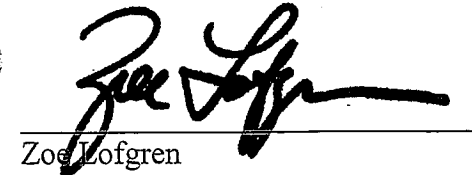
Stephanie Murphy



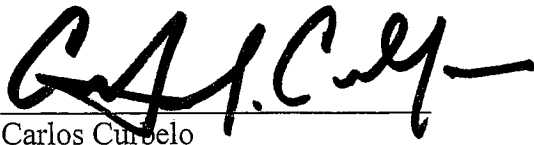
Nanette Diaz Barragan




Al Lawson



Zoe Lofgren


Carlos Curbelo



Seth Moulton



Andy Barr



Ami Bera, M.D.

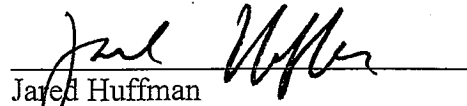

Tulsi Gabbard


Ron Kind



Mark Takano

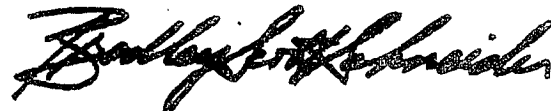

James Comer



Dave Loebsack


Jared Huffman

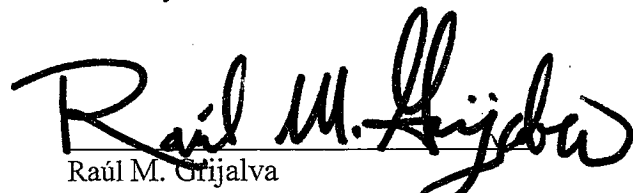

Ed Perlmutter

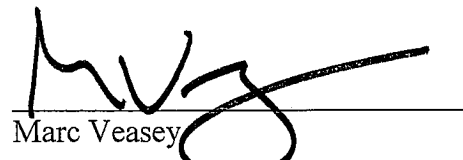

Darren Soto


Bradley S. Schneider

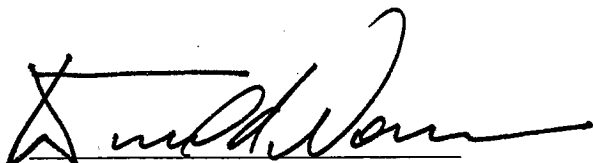

John B. Larson

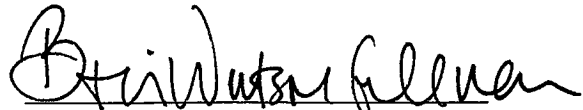

Anthony G. Brown



Raúl M. Grijalva

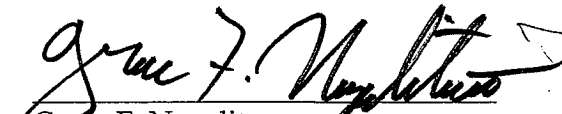

Marc Veasey



Carol Shea-Porter



Donald Norcross



Bonnie Watson Coleman



Juan Vargas


Grace F. Napolitano


John J. Faso


John Katko

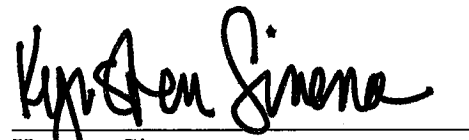

Adriano Espaillat


John K. Delaney


Mike Kelly

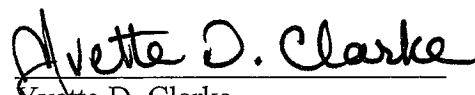

Kevin Cramer

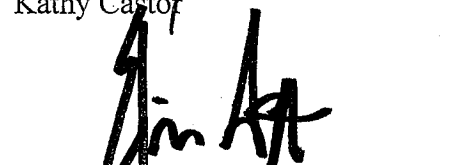

Rob Woodall


Kyristen Sinema


Lou Barletta

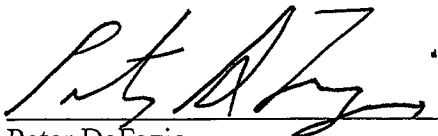

Kathy Castor



Yvette D. Clarke


Jim Costa


Diana DeGette


Rick Larsen



Peter DeFazio



André Carson


Danny K. Davis

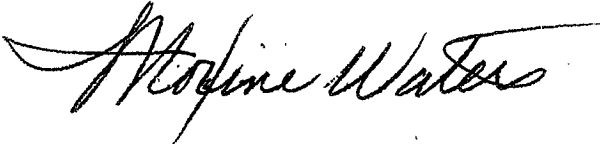

Chellie Pingree

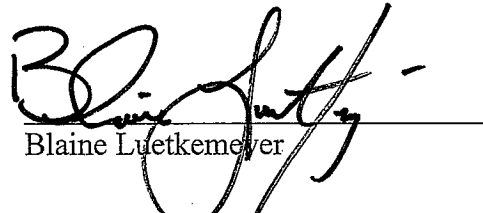

Greg Walden

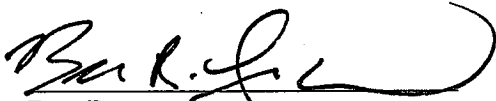

Bobby L. Rush

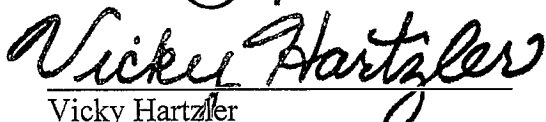

Terri A. Sewell

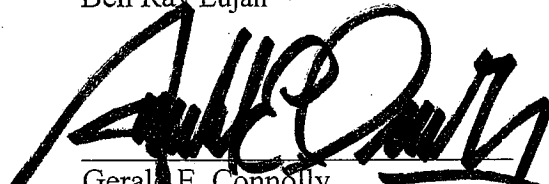

Collin C. Peterson


Maxine Waters


Blaine Luetkemeyer



Ben Ray Lujan

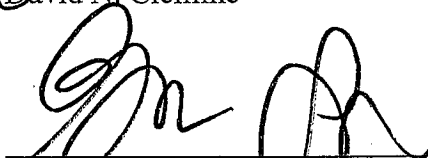

Vicky Hartzler

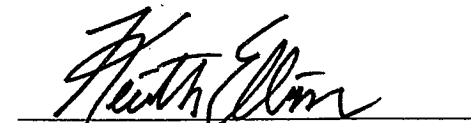

Gerald E. Connolly


Tom Marino

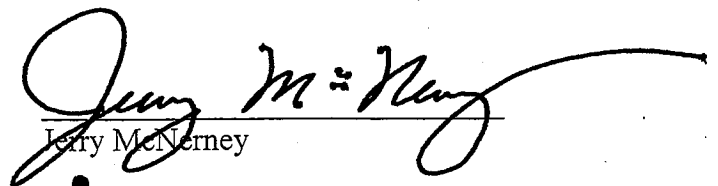

David N. Cicilline

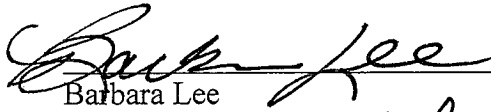

Adam Kinzinger

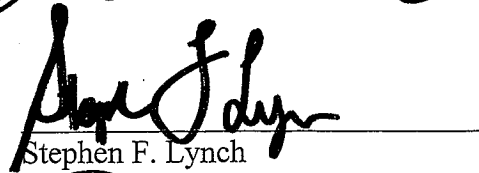

Gwen S. Moore

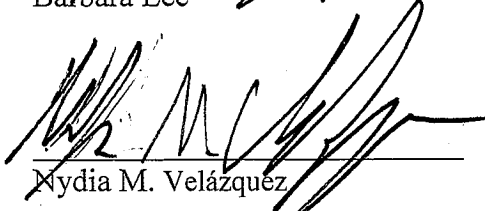

Keith Ellison

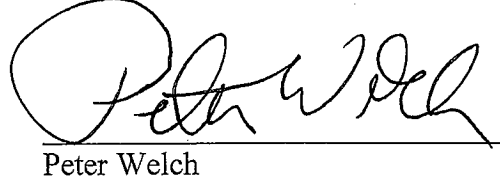

Adam Smith

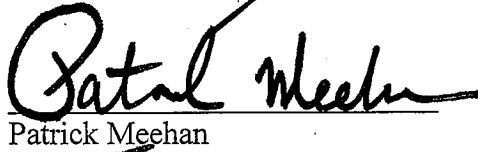

Jerry McNerney


Barbara Lee

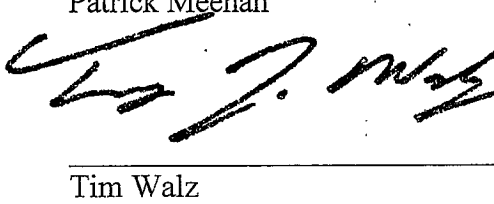

Stephen F. Lynch


Nydia M. Velázquez

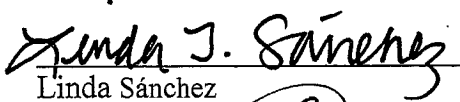

Peter Welch

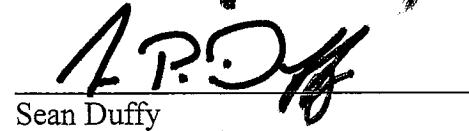

Patrick Meehan

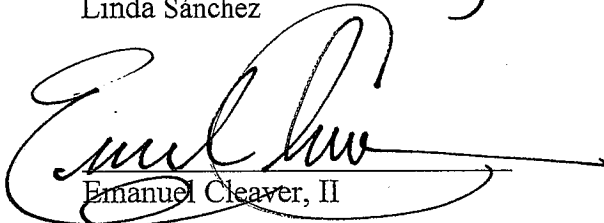

Carolyn B. Maloney

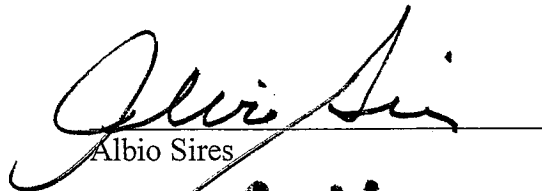

Tim Walz


Don Young


Linda Sánchez

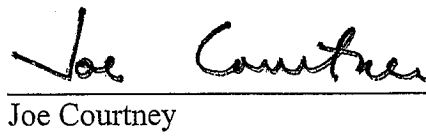

Sean Duffy

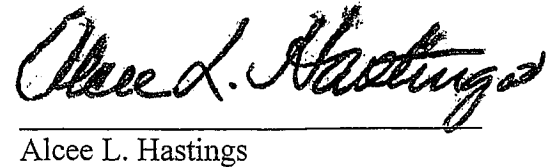

Emanuel Cleaver, II


Albio Sires


Daniel W. Lipinski


Al Green


Joe Courtney


Alcee L. Hastings

Richard M. Nolan

Richard M. Nolan

Jan Schakowsky

Jan Schakowsky

Michael R. Turner

Michael R. Turner

Bill Pascrell Jr

Bill Pascrell, Jr.

Chris Smith

Christopher H. Smith

Steve Cohen

Steve Cohen

Gregorio Kili Camacho Sablan

Gregorio Kili Camacho Sablan

C. A. Dutch Ruppertsberger

C. A. Dutch Ruppertsberger

Brad R. Wenstrup

Brad Wenstrup

Judy Chu

Judy Chu

Frank A. LoBiondo

Frank A. LoBiondo

Kurt Schrader

Kurt Schrader

John Garamendi

John Garamendi

Suzan DelBene

Suzan DelBene

Mike Coffman

Mike Coffman

Frederica Wilson

Frederica Wilson

Ron Estes

Ron Estes

Brian Higgins

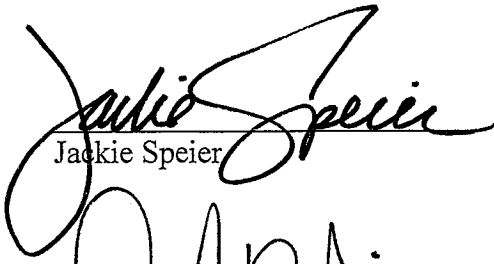
Brian Higgins

Paul S. Tonko

Paul Tonko

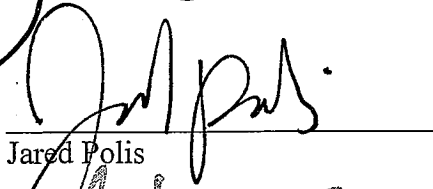
Dina Titus

Dina Titus

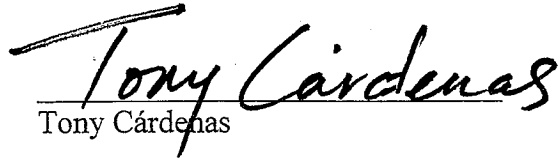


Jackie Speier

Louise M. Slaughter



Jared Polis



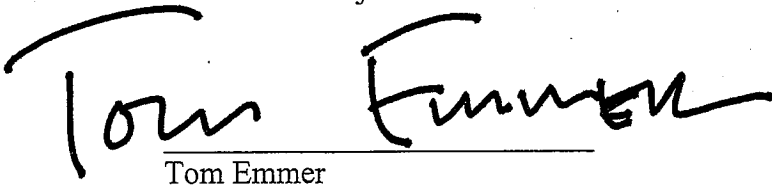
Tony Cárdenas



Salud O. Carbajal



William R. Keating



Tom Emmer



Lisa Blunt Rochester