

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 25, 2009

Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
H-232 The Capitol

David Obey
Chairman, Appropriations Committee
H-218 The Capitol

Louise Slaughter
Chairwoman, Rules Committee
H-312 The Capitol

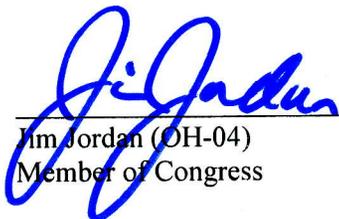
Dear Speaker Pelosi, Chairman Obey, and Chairwoman Slaughter:

We write to you today about critical pro-life policies that may become contentious in the upcoming appropriations process. As you know, for many years pro-life measures have been added to the various appropriations bills to prevent taxpayer dollars from being used to promote or perform abortion, protect the consciences of health care professionals, and prevent funding for unethical human embryo experiments. Often referred to as pro-life riders, each year these provisions are included in legislation reported out of Appropriations subcommittees.

Some of these measures have been in place for over thirty years. The Hyde Amendment, for example, has been in effect since 1976. Enacted under a Democratic Congress, the Hyde Amendment has been renewed by administrations and congresses regardless of party control. Members of both parties have expressed strong support for these measures, which reflect the moral concerns of many Americans who do not wish to see their tax dollars used for any organization that provides abortion services.

We respectfully request that the pro-life riders be included in any legislation reported out of the Appropriations Committee. We believe that failure to include all of the current policies with regard to the right to life will mark a radical departure from a policy a majority of Americans support. If you choose to take such action, then we ask that the Rules Committee report a rule that allows for consideration of any deleted riders on the floor of House of Representatives. The magnitude of this issue and the history associated with it require no less. If this Congress intends to rescind these riders, at a minimum the American people deserve a full debate with an up-or-down vote. Thank you for your time and consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan (OH-04)
Member of Congress



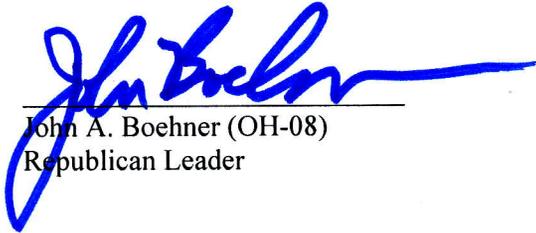
Heath Shuler (NC-11)
Member of Congress



Bart Stupak (MI-01)
Pro-Life Caucus Co-Chairman



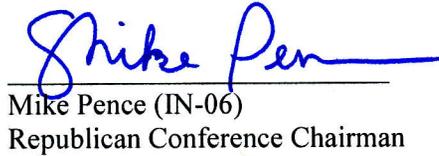
Christopher H. Smith (NJ-04)
Pro-Life Caucus Co-Chairman



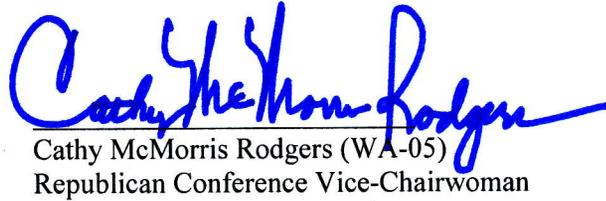
John A. Boehner (OH-08)
Republican Leader



Eric Cantor (VA-07)
Republican Whip



Mike Pence (IN-06)
Republican Conference Chairman



Cathy McMorris Rodgers (WA-05)
Republican Conference Vice-Chairwoman



Robert B. Aderholt (AL-04)
Member of Congress



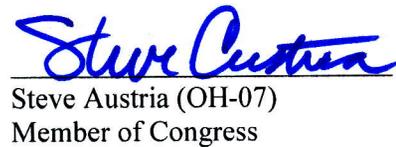
Todd W. Akin (MO-02)
Member of Congress



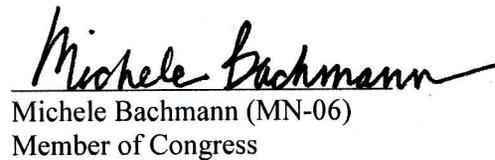
Rodney Alexander (LA-05)
Member of Congress



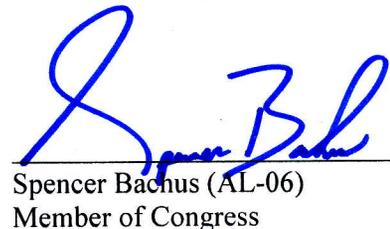
Jason Altmire (PA-04)
Member of Congress



Steve Austria (OH-07)
Member of Congress



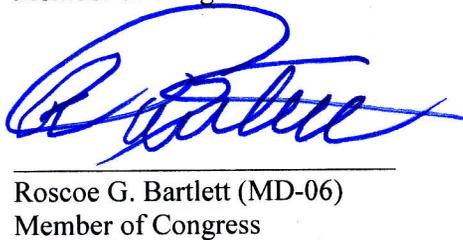
Michele Bachmann (MN-06)
Member of Congress



Spencer Bachus (AL-06)
Member of Congress



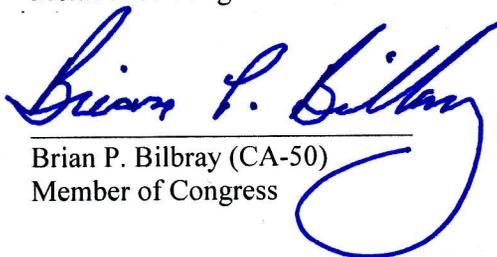
J. Gresham Barrett (SC-03)
Member of Congress



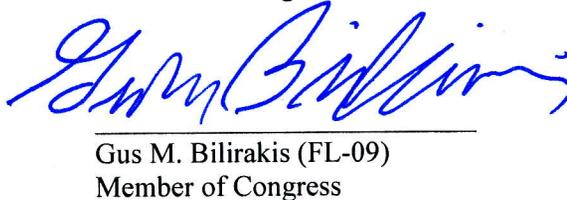
Roscoe G. Bartlett (MD-06)
Member of Congress



Joe Barton (TX-06)
Member of Congress



Brian P. Bilbray (CA-50)
Member of Congress



Gus M. Bilirakis (FL-09)
Member of Congress



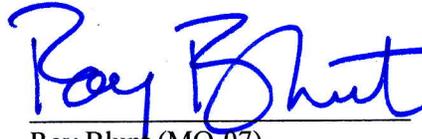
Rob Bishop (UT-01)
Member of Congress



Denny Rehberg (MT-At Large)
Member of Congress



Marsha Blackburn (TN-07)
Member of Congress



Roy Blunt (MO-07)
Member of Congress



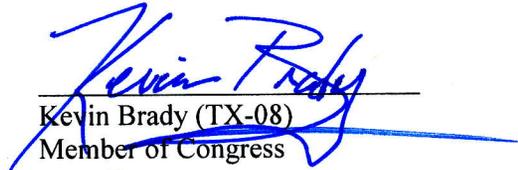
John Boozman (AR-03)
Member of Congress



Dan Boren (OK-02)
Member of Congress



Charles W. Boustany, Jr. (LA-07)
Member of Congress



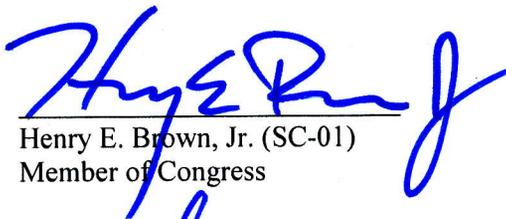
Kevin Brady (TX-08)
Member of Congress



Bobby Bright (AL-02)
Member of Congress



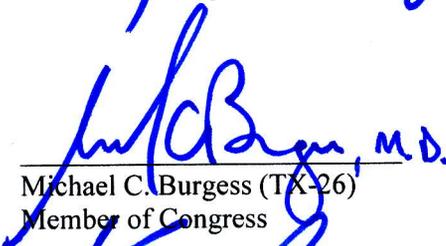
Paul C. Brown (GA-10)
Member of Congress



Henry E. Brown, Jr. (SC-01)
Member of Congress



Vern Buchanan (FL-13)
Member of Congress



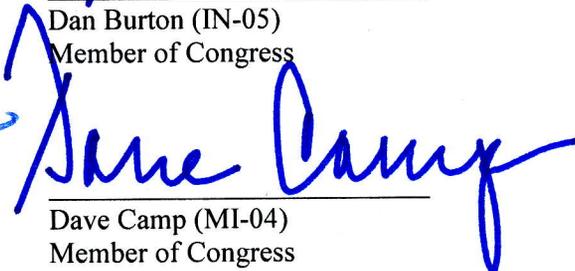
Michael C. Burgess (TX-26)
Member of Congress



Dan Burton (IN-05)
Member of Congress



Ken Calvert (CA-44)
Member of Congress



Dave Camp (MI-04)
Member of Congress


John Campbell (CA-18)
Member of Congress


Anh "Joseph" Cao (LA-02)
Member of Congress


Bill Cassidy (LA-06)
Member of Congress

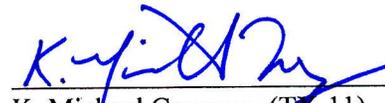

Jason Chaffetz (UT-03)
Member of Congress M.C.


Travis W. Childers (MS-01)
Member of Congress


Howard Coble (NC-06)
Member of Congress


Mike Coffman (CO-06)
Member of Congress

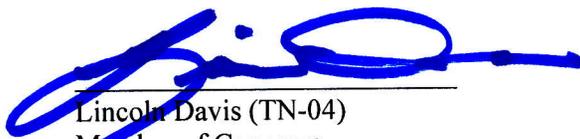

Tom Cole (OK-04)
Member of Congress

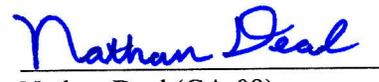

K. Michael Conaway (TX-11)
Member of Congress


John Abney Culberson (TX-07)
Member of Congress


Kathleen A. Dahlkemper (PA-03)
Member of Congress


Geoff Davis (KY-04)
Member of Congress


Lincoln Davis (TN-04)
Member of Congress

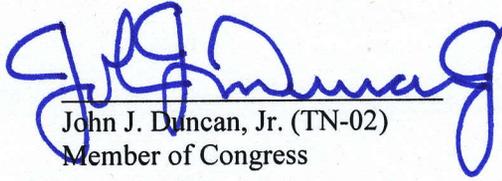

Nathan Deal (GA-09)
Member of Congress


Lincoln Diaz-Balart (FL-21)
Member of Congress

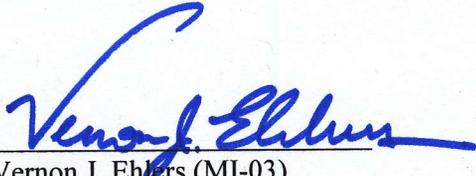

Joe Donnelly (IN-02)
Member of Congress



Steve Driehaus (OH-01)
Member of Congress



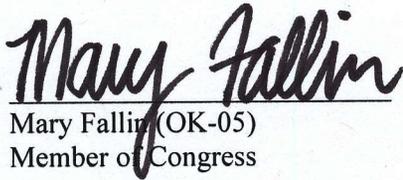
John J. Duncan, Jr. (TN-02)
Member of Congress



Vernon J. Ehlers (MI-03)
Member of Congress



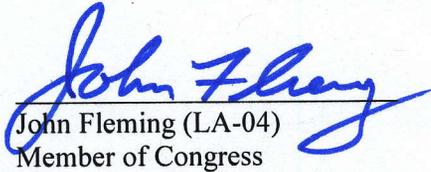
Brad Ellsworth (IN-08)
Member of Congress



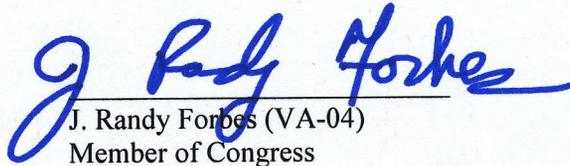
Mary Fallin (OK-05)
Member of Congress



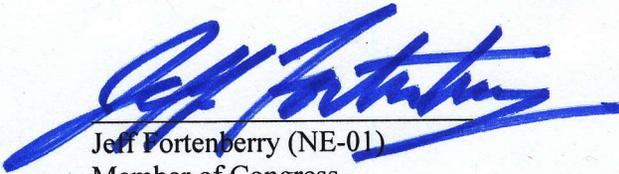
Jeff Flake (AZ-06)
Member of Congress



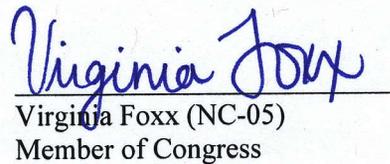
John Fleming (LA-04)
Member of Congress



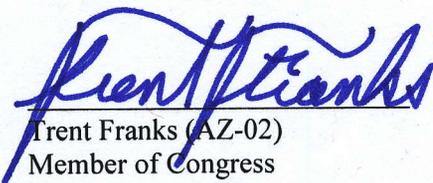
J. Randy Forbes (VA-04)
Member of Congress



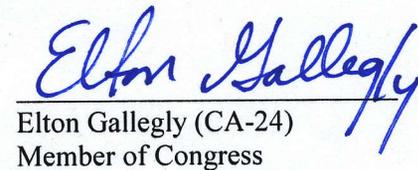
Jeff Fortenberry (NE-01)
Member of Congress



Virginia Foxx (NC-05)
Member of Congress



Trent Franks (AZ-02)
Member of Congress



Elton Gallegly (CA-24)
Member of Congress



Scott Garrett (NJ-05)
Member of Congress



Jim Gerlach (PA-06)
Member of Congress

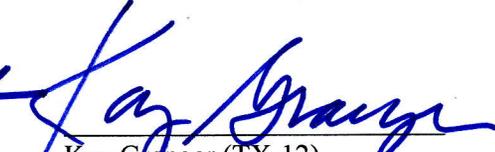


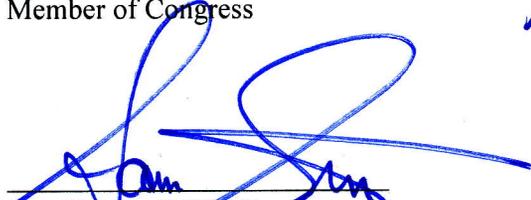
Phil Gingrey (GA-11)
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert (TX-01)
Member of Congress


Bob Goodlatte (VA-06)
Member of Congress

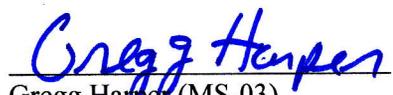

Kay Granger (TX-12)
Member of Congress

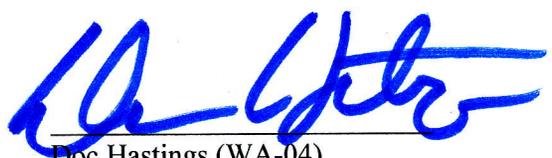

Sam Graves (MO-06)
Member of Congress

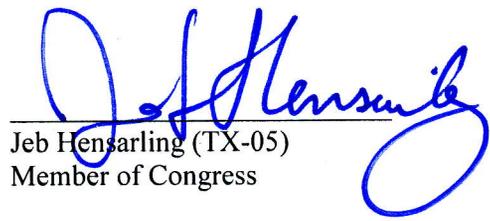

Parker Griffith (AL-05)
Member of Congress

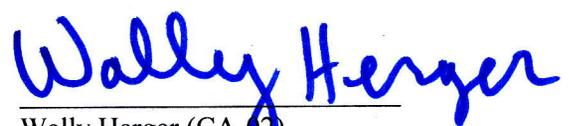

Brett Guthrie (KY-02)
Member of Congress


Ralph M. Hall (TX-04)
Member of Congress

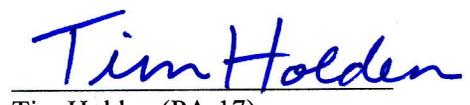

Gregg Harper (MS-03)
Member of Congress

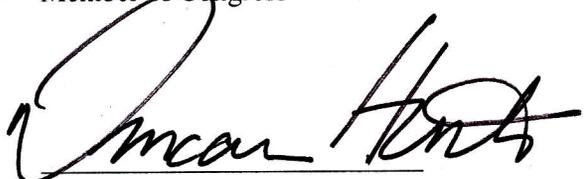

Doc Hastings (WA-04)
Member of Congress

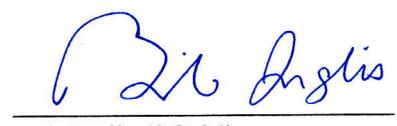

Jeb Hensarling (TX-05)
Member of Congress


Wally Herger (CA-12)
Member of Congress


Peter Hoekstra (MI-02)
Member of Congress


Tim Holden (PA-17)
Member of Congress


Duncan Hunter (CA-52)
Member of Congress


Bob Inglis (SC-04)
Member of Congress


Darrell E. Issa (CA-49)
Member of Congress


Sam Johnson (TX-03)
Member of Congress


Timothy V. Johnson (IL-15)
Member of Congress


Walter B. Jones (NC-03)
Member of Congress


Dale E. Kildee (MI-05)
Member of Congress


Peter T. King (NY-03)
Member of Congress


Steve King (IA-05)
Member of Congress


Jack Kingston (GA-01)
Member of Congress

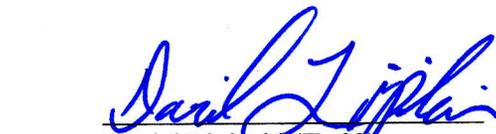

John Kline (MN-02)
Member of Congress

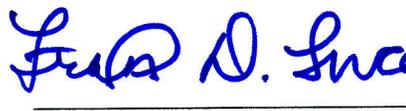

Doug Lamborn (CO-05)
Member of Congress

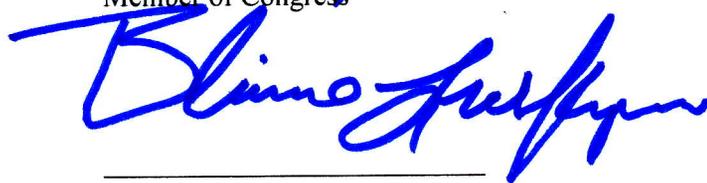

Tom Latham (IA-04)
Member of Congress

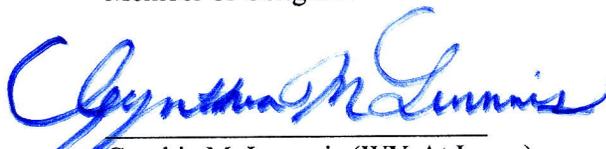

Robert E. Latta (OH-05)
Member of Congress

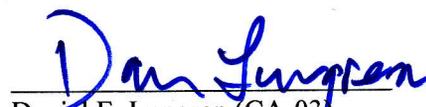

John Linder (GA-07)
Member of Congress


Daniel Lipinski (IL-03)
Member of Congress


Frank D. Lucas (OK-03)
Member of Congress


Blaine Luetkemeyer (MO-09)
Member of Congress


Cynthia M. Lummis (WY-At Large)
Member of Congress


Daniel E. Lungren (CA-03)
Member of Congress

Kevin McCarthy

Kevin McCarthy (CA-22)
Member of Congress

Michael T. McCaul

Michael T. McCaul (TX-10)
Member of Congress

Tom McClintock

Tom McClintock (CA-04)
Member of Congress

Thaddeus G. McCotter

Thaddeus G. McCotter (MI-11)
Member of Congress

Patrick T. McHenry

Patrick T. McHenry (NC-10)
Member of Congress

Mike McIntyre

Mike McIntyre (NC-07)
Member of Congress

Connie Mack

Connie Mack (FL-14)
Member of Congress

Donald A. Manzullo

Donald A. Manzullo (IL-16)
Member of Congress

Kenny Marchant

Kenny Marchant (TX-24)
Member of Congress

Jim Marshall

Jim Marshall (GA-08)
Member of Congress

Charlie Melancon

Charlie Melancon (LA-03)
Member of Congress

John L. Mica (FL-07)
Member of Congress

Candice S. Miller

Candice S. Miller (MI-10)
Member of Congress

Gary G. Miller

Gary G. Miller (CA-42)
Member of Congress

Jeff Miller

Jeff Miller (FL-01)
Member of Congress

Jerry Moran

Jerry Moran (KS-01)
Member of Congress


Tim Murphy (PA-18)
Member of Congress

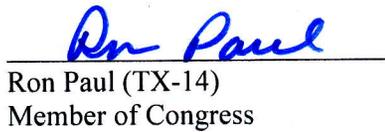

Sue Wilkins Myrick (NC-09)
Member of Congress


Randy Neugebauer (TX-19)
Member of Congress

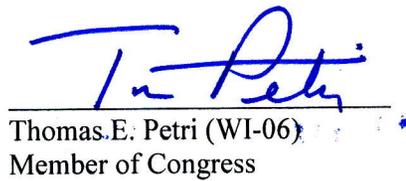

Devin Nunes (CA-21)
Member of Congress


Pete Olson (TX-22)
Member of Congress


Solomon P. Ortiz (TX-27)
Member of Congress

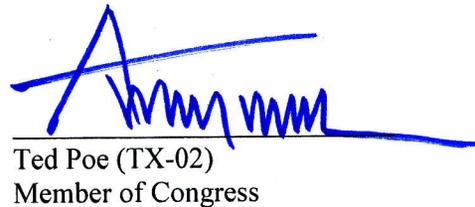

Ron Paul (TX-14)
Member of Congress

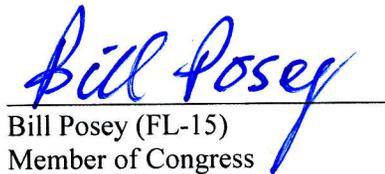

Collin C. Peterson (MN-07)
Member of Congress

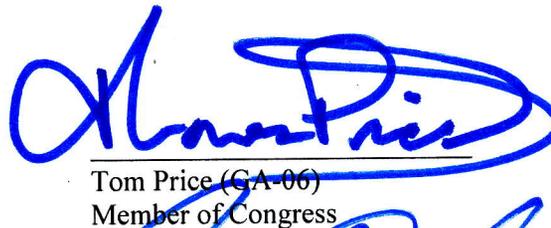

Thomas E. Petri (WI-06)
Member of Congress

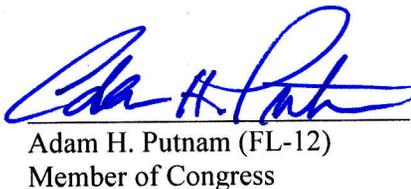

Joseph R. Pitts (PA-16)
Member of Congress


Todd Russell Platts (PA-19)
Member of Congress


Ted Poe (TX-02)
Member of Congress


Bill Posey (FL-15)
Member of Congress


Tom Price (GA-06)
Member of Congress


Adam H. Putnam (FL-12)
Member of Congress


George Radanovich (CA-19)
Member of Congress

David P. Roe

David P. Roe (TN-01)
Member of Congress

Harold Rogers

Harold Rogers (KY-05)
Member of Congress

Mike Rogers

Mike Rogers (AL-03)
Member of Congress

Mike Rogers

Mike Rogers (MI-08)
Member of Congress

Dana Rohrabacher

Dana Rohrabacher (CA-46)
Member of Congress

Thomas J. Rooney

Thomas J. Rooney (FL-16)
Member of Congress

Peter J. Roskam

Peter J. Roskam (IL-06)
Member of Congress

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL-18)
Member of Congress

Edward R. Royce

Edward R. Royce (CA-40)
Member of Congress

Paul Ryan

Paul Ryan (WI-01)
Member of Congress

Steve Scalise

Steve Scalise (LA-01)
Member of Congress

Jean Schmidt

Jean Schmidt (OH-02)
Member of Congress

Aaron Schock

Aaron Schock (IL-18)
Member of Congress

James F. Sensenbrenner, Jr.

James F. Sensenbrenner, Jr. (WI-05)
Member of Congress

Pete Sessions

Pete Sessions (TX-32)
Member of Congress

John B. Shadegg

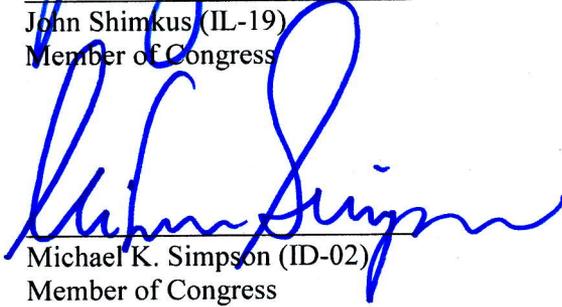
John B. Shadegg (AZ-03)
Member of Congress



John Shimkus (IL-19)
Member of Congress



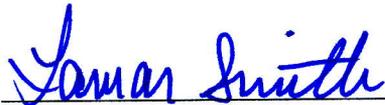
Bill Shuster (PA-09)
Member of Congress



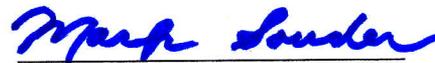
Michael K. Simpson (ID-02)
Member of Congress



Adrian Smith (NE-03)
Member of Congress



Lamar Smith (TX-21)
Member of Congress



Mark E. Souder (IN-03)
Member of Congress



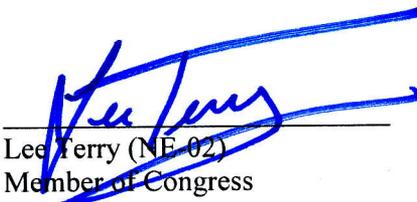
Cliff Stearns (FL-06)
Member of Congress



John Sullivan (OK-01)
Member of Congress



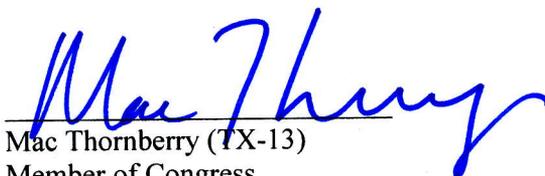
Gene Taylor (MS-04)
Member of Congress



Lee Terry (NE-02)
Member of Congress



Glenn Thompson (PA-05)
Member of Congress



Mac Thornberry (TX-13)
Member of Congress



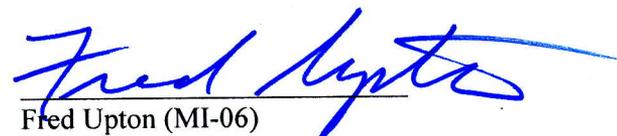
Todd Tiahrt (KS-04)
Member of Congress



Patrick J. Tiberi (OH-12)
Member of Congress



Michael R. Turner (OH-03)
Member of Congress



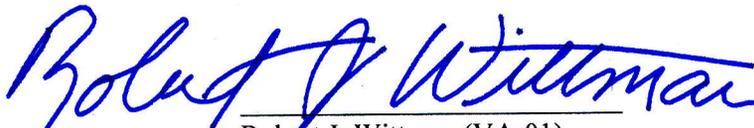
Fred Upton (MI-06)
Member of Congress


Zach Wamp (TN-03)
Member of Congress

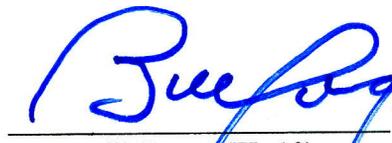

Lynn A. Westmoreland (GA-03)
Member of Congress

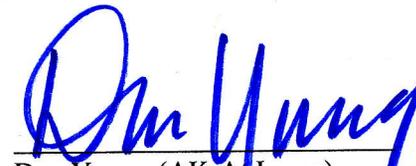

Ed Whitfield (KY-01)
Member of Congress


Joe Wilson (SC-02)
Member of Congress

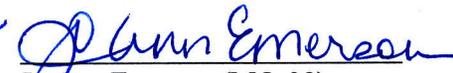

Robert J. Wittman (VA-01)
Member of Congress


Frank R. Wolf (VA-10)
Member of Congress


C. W. Bill Young (FL-10)
Member of Congress


Don Young (AK-At Large)
Member of Congress

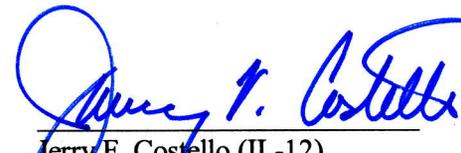

Frank A. LoBiondo (NJ-02)
Member of Congress

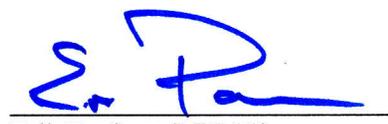

Jo Ann Emerson (MO-08)
Member of Congress


Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25)
Member of Congress


John R. Carter (TX-31)
Member of Congress


Nick J. Rahall, II (WV-03)
Member of Congress


Jerry F. Costello (IL-12)
Member of Congress


Erik Paulsen (MN-03)
Member of Congress