

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
Chairman  
Judiciary Committee  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

September 17, 2018

Dear Senators,

We urge you to delay Judge Brett Kavanaugh's nomination to the Supreme Court until a thorough investigation of Dr. Christine Blasey Ford's allegations has taken place.

To hold a vote now would be an insult to women and girls, sending a powerful message that they don't matter and will not be believed. Let's instead set an example for our children that sexual violence should be taken seriously and emphatically denounced.

If the allegations of sexual assault are true, they speak to Brett Kavanaugh's character and ability to determine right from wrong. Before giving Kavanaugh power to make decisions about women's lives, their protection under our laws prohibiting sexual violence, and their physical autonomy, Congress has a responsibility to allow the American people to learn the truth.


In the age of #MeToo, the vitriol that Anita Hill endured cannot happen again, both in our national discourse and throughout any testimony that Dr. Ford chooses to provide. Over this past year, survivors across the country have come forward with harrowing stories of sexual assault and harassment. Their bravery and experiences cannot be in vain.


Dr. Ford did not want to go public with her story, knowing the hostility, retaliation, and disbelief she would face. We applaud her courage for risking it all. Now that Dr. Ford has taken the brave step to come forward, we must do all we can to treat her with decency and respect.

We urge the Senate to rise to the occasion, take these allegations with the seriousness and careful consideration they deserve, and allow a thorough investigation.


Sincerely,


  
Lois Frankel  
Chair  
Democratic Women's Working Group

  
Brenda L. Lawrence  
Vice Chair  
Democratic Women's Working Group

  
Jackie Speier  
Policy and Communications Chair  
Democratic Women's Working Group

cc. U.S. Senators

  
Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress


  
Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress

  
Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress


  
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress

  
Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress


  
Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress

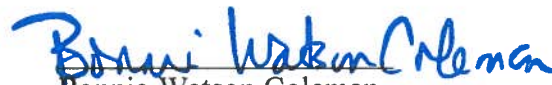
  
Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
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Frederica S. Wilson  
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Lisa Blunt Rochester  
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Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress

  
Grace Meng  
Member of Congress

  
Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress

cc. U.S. Senators



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Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



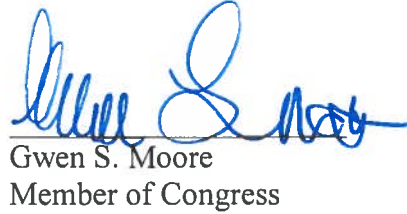
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Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress




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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



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Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



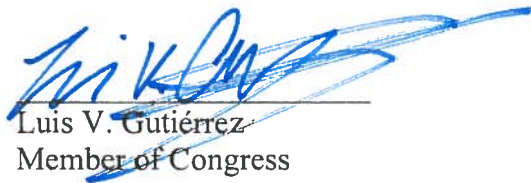
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Katherine Clark  
Member of Congress



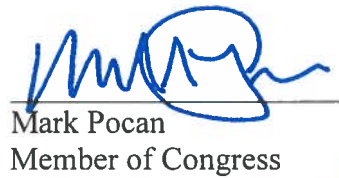
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Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



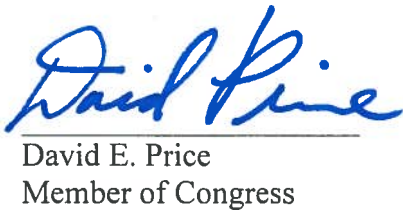
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Luis V. Gutiérrez  
Member of Congress



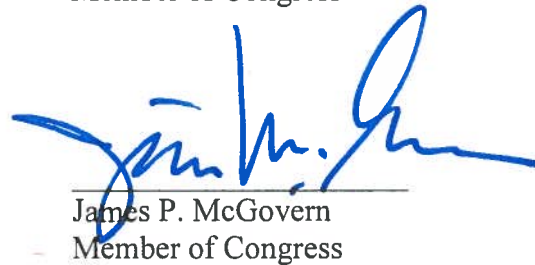
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Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



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David E. Price  
Member of Congress



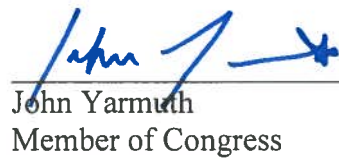
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James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



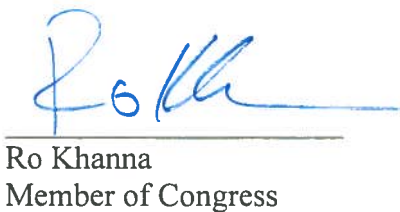
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Mark Takano  
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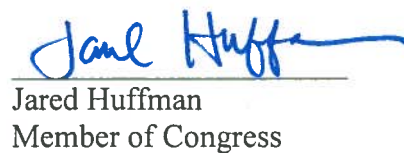
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John Yarmuth  
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Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress



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Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



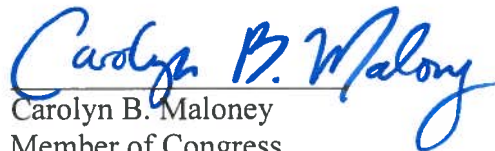
Linda T. Sánchez  
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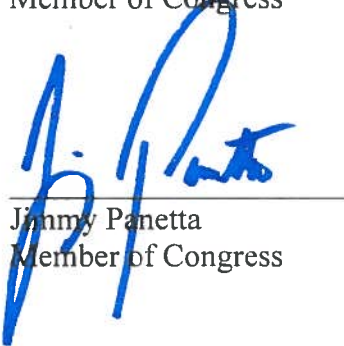
Maxine Waters  
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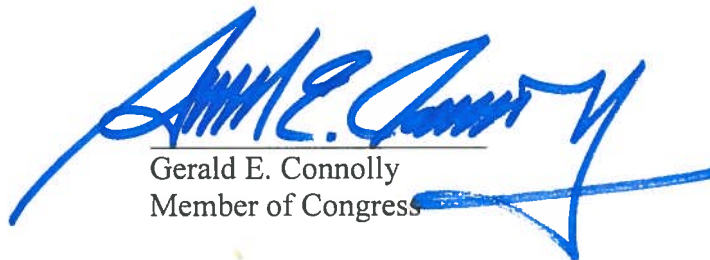
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Gerald E. Connolly  
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Member of Congress



Scott Peters  
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison  
Member of Congress



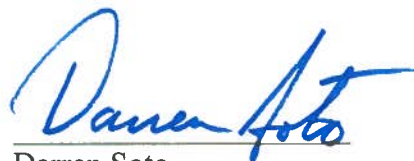
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Judy Chu  
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André Carson  
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Darren Soto  
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John Garamendi  
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Steve Cohen  
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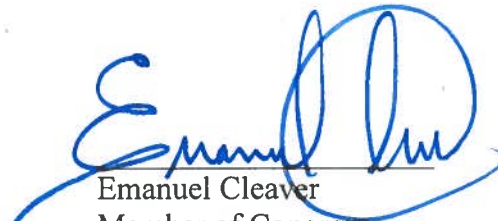
  
Paul D. Tonko  
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Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress

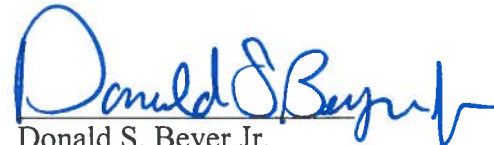
  
Raja Krishnamoorthi  
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Salud O. Carbajal  
Member of Congress

  
Earl Blumenauer  
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Emanuel Cleaver  
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Bill Foster  
Member of Congress

  
Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress

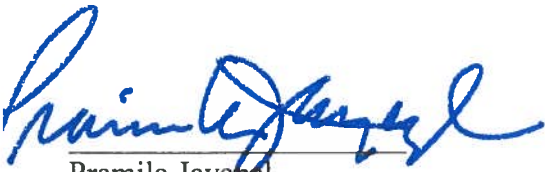
  
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Peter Welch  
Member of Congress

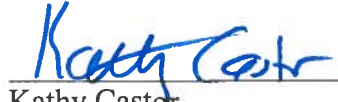
  
Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress

  
Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress

cc. U.S. Senators



Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



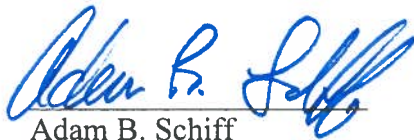
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Val Demings  
Member of Congress




Theodore E. Deutch  
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Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



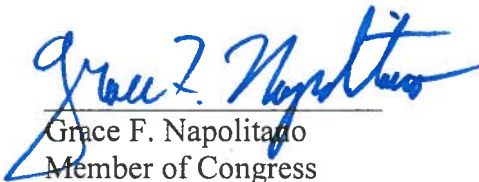
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Susan A. Davis  
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Tim Ryan  
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Grace F. Napolitano  
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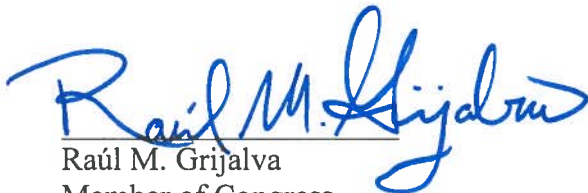
Albio Sires  
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Dan Kildee  
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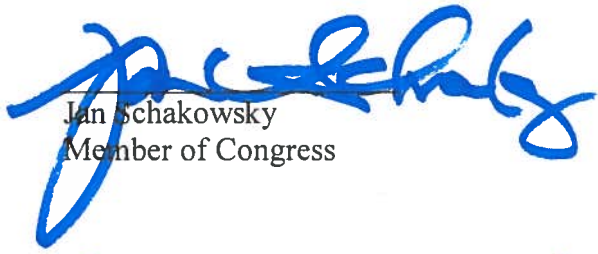
Matt Cartwright  
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Raúl M. Grijalva  
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Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress



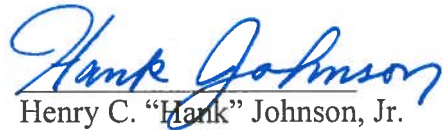
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Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress



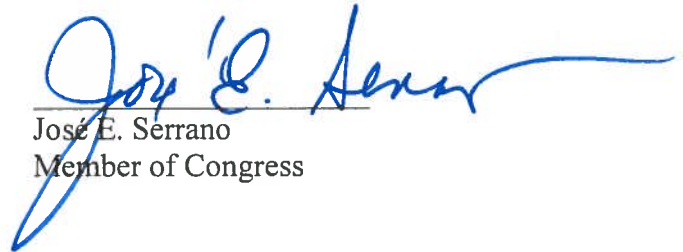
David N. Cicilline  
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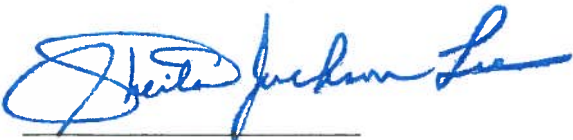
Rosa DeLauro  
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Tulsi Gabbard  
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Jose E. Serrano  
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Sheila Jackson Lee  
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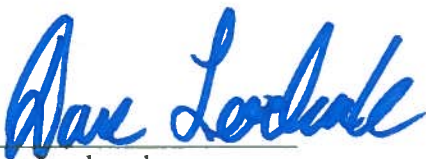
Carol Shea-Porter  
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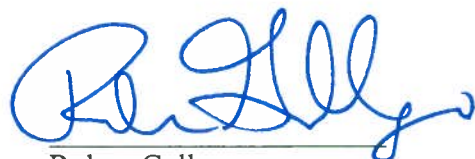
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Nanette Diaz Barragan  
Member of Congress



Dave Loebsack  
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Ruben Gallego  
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Niki Tsongas  
Member of Congress



Mike Doyle  
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal  
Member of Congress



Joseph P. Kennedy, III  
Member of Congress



Lucille Roybal-Allard  
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James R. Langevin  
Member of Congress



Suzan DelBene  
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Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



Karen Bass  
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress




Ben Ray Lujan  
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress

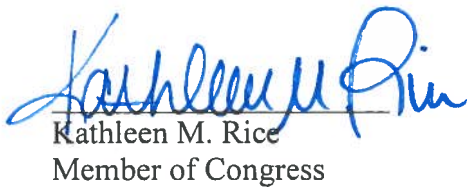


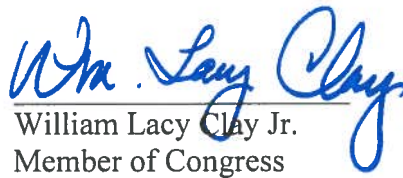
  
Nita M. Lowey  
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Marcia L. Fudge  
Member of Congress

  
Jacky Rosen  
Member of Congress

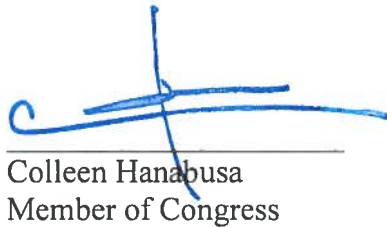
  
Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress

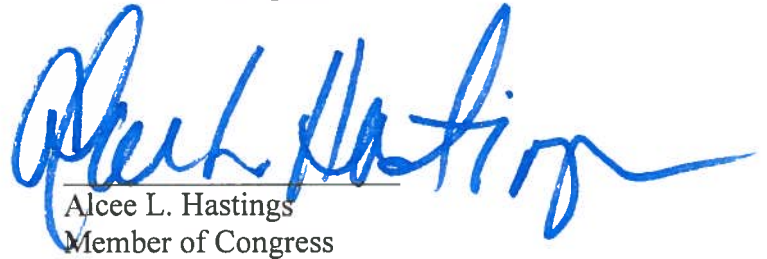
  
Kathleen M. Rice  
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William Lacy Clay Jr.  
Member of Congress

  
Peter DeFazio  
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Marcy Kaptur  
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Colleen Hanabusa  
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Alcee L. Hastings  
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Stephanie Murphy  
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