

**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  
Judiciary Committee  
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

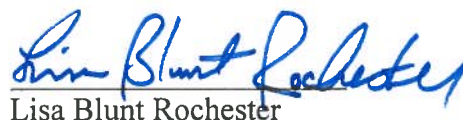
  
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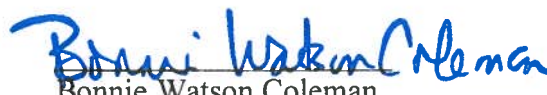
  
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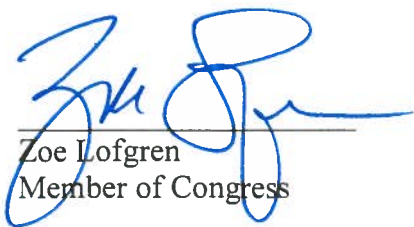
  
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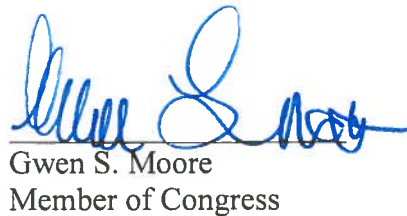
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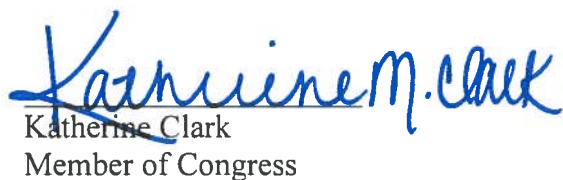
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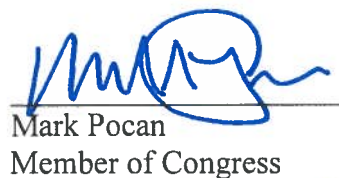
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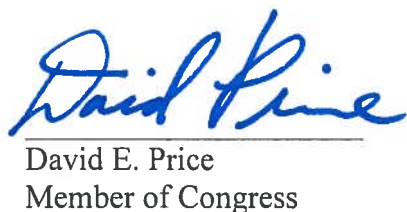
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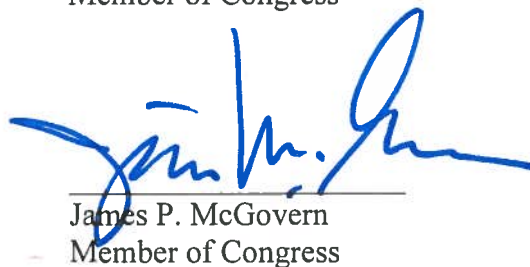
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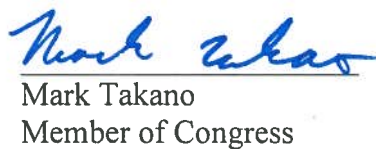
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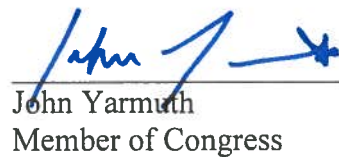
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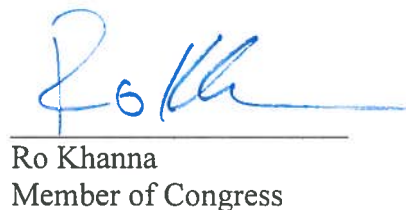
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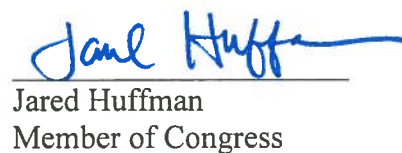
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John Yarmuth  
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Ro Khanna  
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Jared Huffman  
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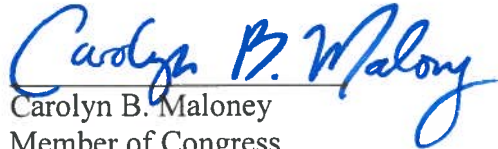
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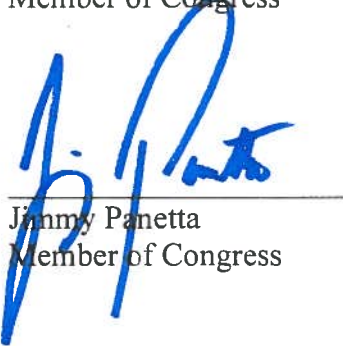
Maxine Waters  
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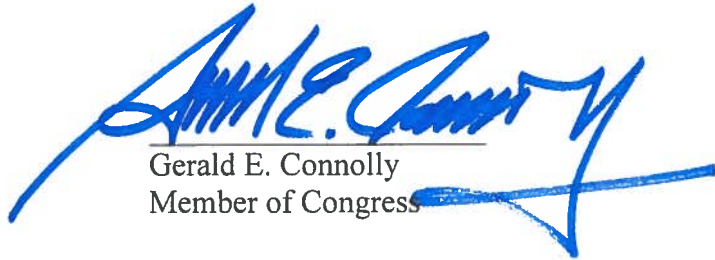
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Scott Peters  
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison  
Member of Congress



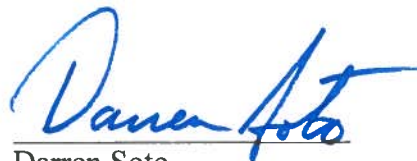
Doris Matsui  
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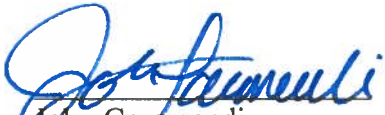
Judy Chu  
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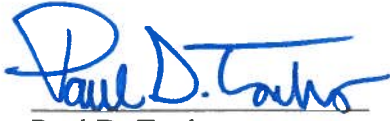
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Paul D. Tonko  
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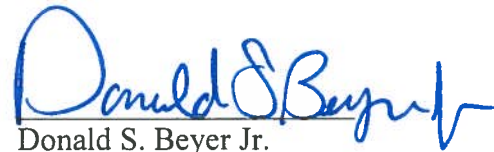
  
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Salud O. Carbajal  
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Earl Blumenauer  
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Emanuel Cleaver  
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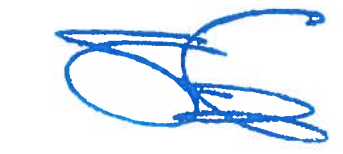
  
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Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress

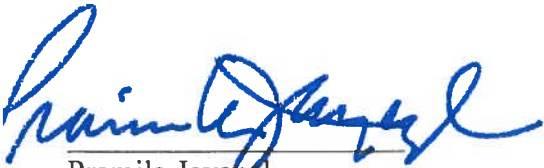
  
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Peter Welch  
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Juan Vargas  
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Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress

cc. U.S. Senators



Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



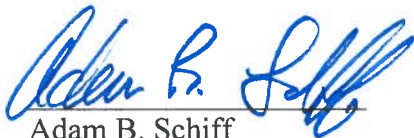
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Val Demings  
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Theodore E. Deutch  
Member of Congress



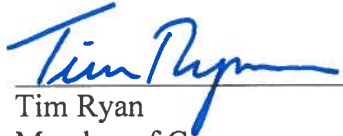
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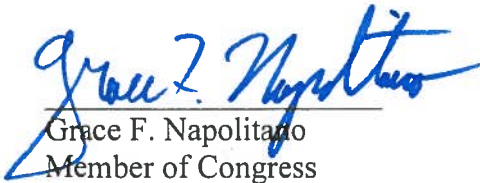
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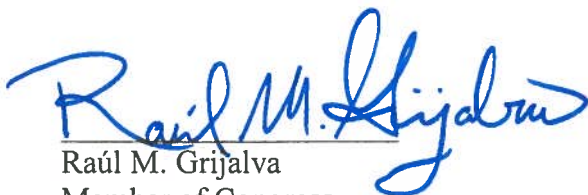
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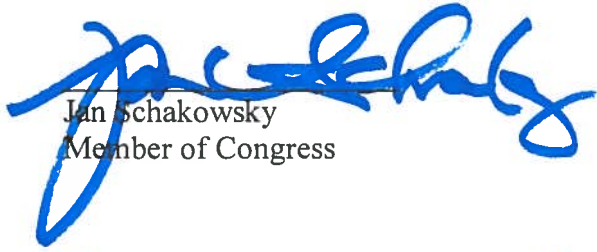
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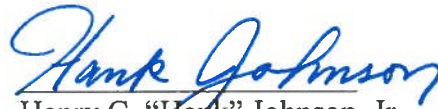
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Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



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



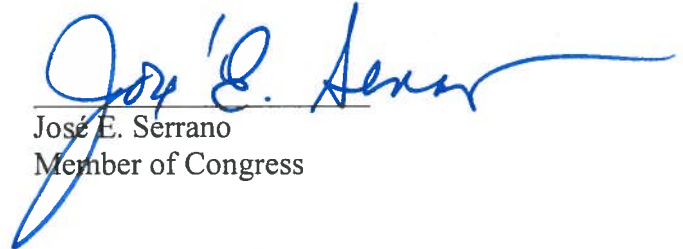
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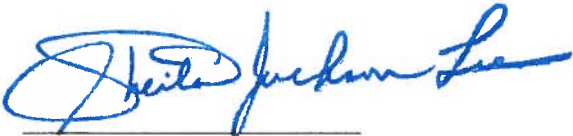
Rosa DeLauro  
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José E. Serrano  
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Sheila Jackson Lee  
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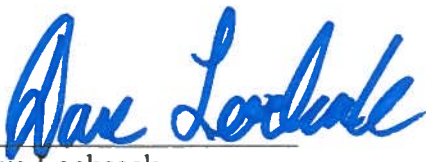
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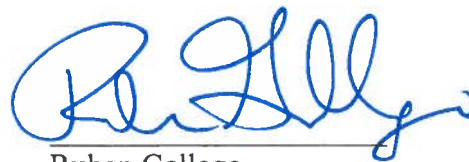
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Dave Loebsack  
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Ruben Gallego  
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Niki Tsongas  
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Mike Doyle  
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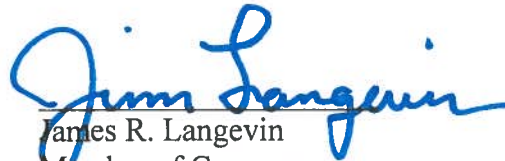
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Member of Congress



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Suzan DelBene  
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Norma J. Torres  
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Karen Bass  
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Mark DeSaulnier  
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Frank Pallone, Jr.  
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Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



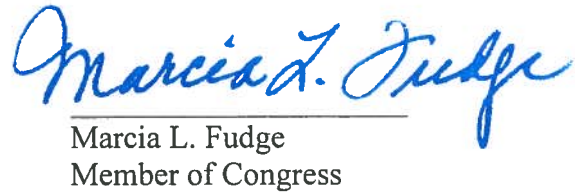
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Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress

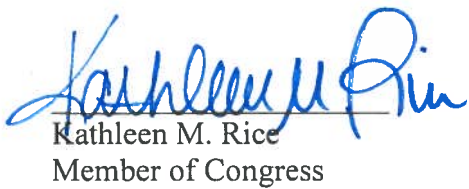


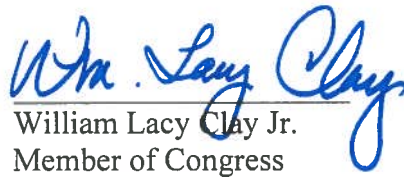
  
Nita M. Lowey  
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Jacky Rosen  
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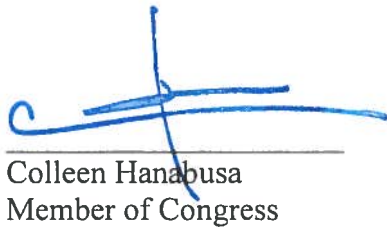
  
Mike Thompson  
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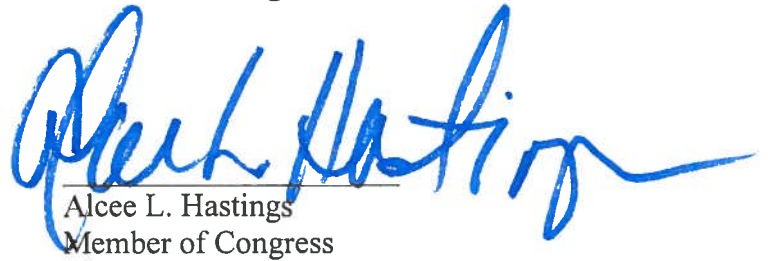
  
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