

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

November 18, 2025

Mr. Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232, the Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson:

We write to you to strongly condemn the rise in anti-transgender rhetoric, including from members of Congress, and to urge you to ensure members of Congress are following rules of decorum and not using their platforms to demonize and scapegoat any marginalized community, including the transgender community.

This Congress, we have seen a dramatic escalation in rhetoric demonizing and dehumanizing the transgender community. This includes multiple instances of a member of Congress using a slur to refer to the transgender community during official proceedings, including during committee proceedings and on the floor of the House. Despite the responsibility of Committee Chairs and the Speaker of the House to maintain order and ensure members are following the rules of decorum, no action was taken by the Chair or Speaker Pro Tempore in any of these circumstances.¹

We have also heard calls by members of Congress to institutionalize all transgender people, comments referring to transgender people as mentally ill, and false suggestions by high-level political figures that transgender people are inherently violent and must be addressed as a national security threat. This language, coupled with the rising number of legislative and administrative attacks we have seen against the transgender community, is taking a real toll on the transgender community with many members fearing for their safety. These concerns are not unfounded: the latest federal hate crime statistics for 2024 included a reported 463 hate crime incidents motivated by gender identity bias—which is most likely an undercount given ongoing issues with many law enforcement agencies not reporting hate crimes or reporting zero hate crimes to the FBI.² Transgender people are also more than four times more likely than non-transgender people to experience violent victimization, despite being less than 2% of the population.³

¹ See, e.g., H. Doc. 94-661 - Deschler-Brown Precedents, Vol. 12, Ch. 29 § 43. Disorderly Language (“Profanity may not be voiced in debate regardless of the subject of the remarks, and remarks with critical racial overtones are out of order... Under clause 1 of Rule XIV, Members should refrain from using profanity or vulgarity in debate; the Chair has taken the initiative against a Member’s use of profanity.”).

² FBI Releases 2024 Hate Crime Statistics, U.S. Dep’t of Justice (Updated Aug. 11, 2025), <https://www.justice.gov/hatecrimes/hate-crime-statistics>

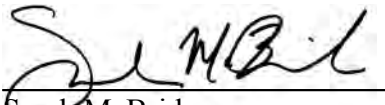
³ Transgender people over four times more likely than cisgender people to be victims of violent crime, UCLA Williams Inst. (Mar. 23, 2021), <https://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/press/nevs-trans-press-release/>

Transgender people are part of every community. They are veterans, teachers, and doctors. They are parents, children, and siblings. They are neighbors and friends. They are Democrats, Republicans, and Independents. Attacks on the transgender community are attacks on *every* community. Transgender people deserve government officials who will lift them up, not attack them simply because of who they are.

There is a long history of government officials dehumanizing and attacking small minority communities. But there is also a long history of people, including government officials, pushing back on these efforts and standing for what is right.

As Speaker of the House, you have a responsibility not just to the Republican Conference but to the entire House of Representatives—and the entire country that the House represents. We urge you to condemn the rise in dehumanizing rhetoric targeting the transgender community and to ensure members of your conference are abiding by rules of decorum and not using their platforms to demonize and scapegoat the transgender community, including by ensuring members are not using slurs to refer to the transgender community.

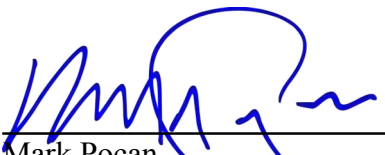
Sincerely,



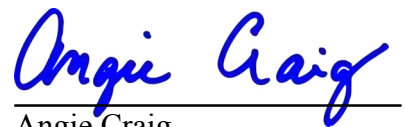
Sarah McBride
Member of Congress



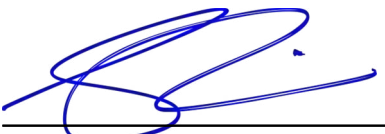
Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Angie Craig
Member of Congress



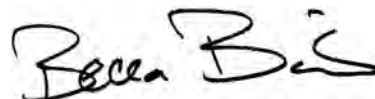
Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



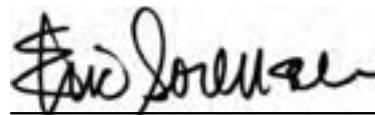
Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress



Becca Balint
Member of Congress



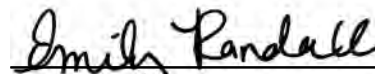
Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



Eric Sorensen
Member of Congress



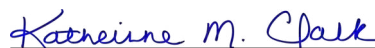
Julie Johnson
Member of Congress



Emily Randall
Member of Congress



Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress



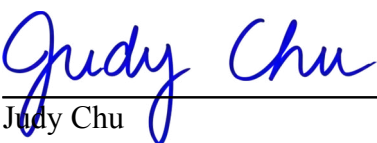
Katherine M. Clark
Member of Congress



Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



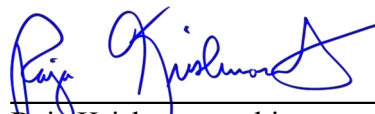
Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



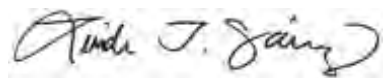
Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



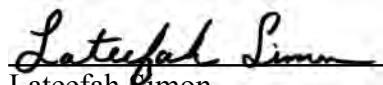
Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress

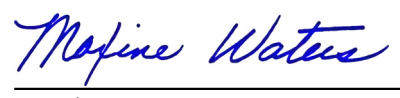


Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress



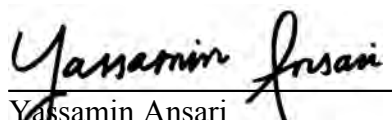
Darren Soto
Member of Congress


Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress

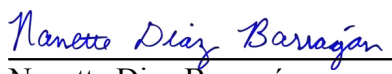

Maxine Waters
Member of Congress
Ranking Member, Committee
on Financial Services


Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress

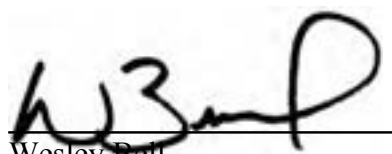

Gabe Amo
Member of Congress


Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress


Jake Auchincloss
Member of Congress

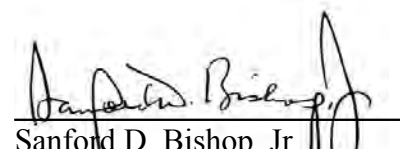

Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress


Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress


Wesley Bell
Member of Congress


Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress


Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress

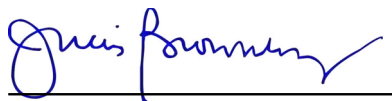

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



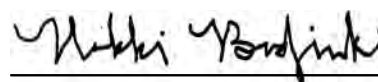
Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Shontel M. Brown
Member of Congress



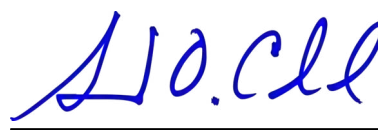
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress



Janelle S. Bynum
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



André Carson
Member of Congress



Troy A. Carter, Sr.
Member of Congress



Greg Casar
Member of Congress



Ed Case
Member of Congress



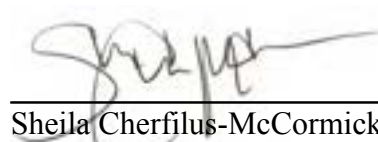
Sean Casten
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



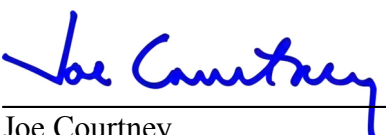
Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



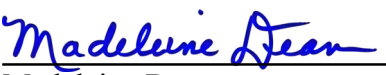
J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



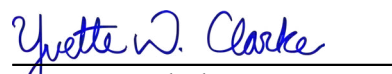
Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



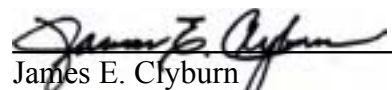
Jason Crow
Member of Congress



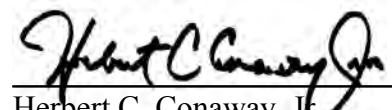
Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



James E. Clyburn



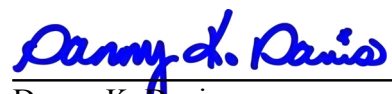
Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



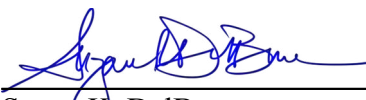
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



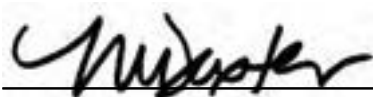
Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



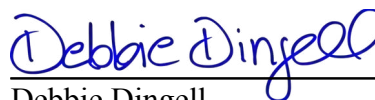
Chris Deluzio
Member of Congress



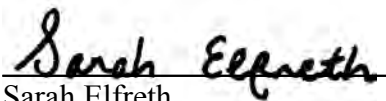
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress



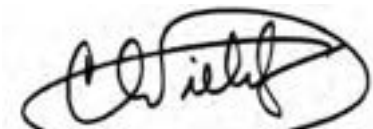
Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



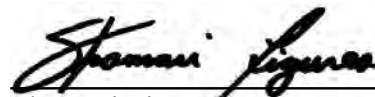
Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Cleo Fields
Member of Congress



Shomari Figures
Member of Congress



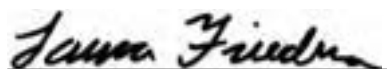
Bill Foster
Member of Congress



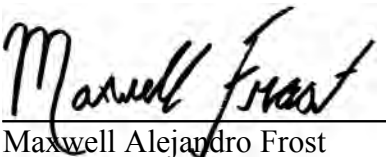
Valerie P. Foushee
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



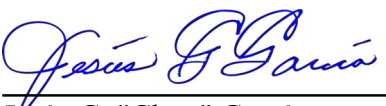
Laura Friedman
Member of Congress



Maxwell Alejandro Frost
Member of Congress



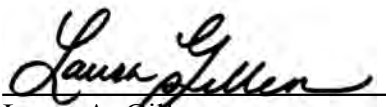
John Garamendi
Member of Congress



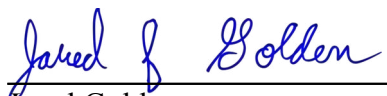
Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



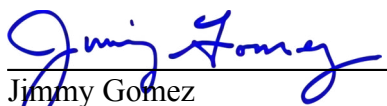
Laura A. Gillen
Member of Congress



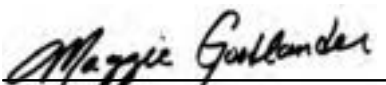
Jared Golden
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



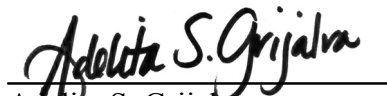
Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress



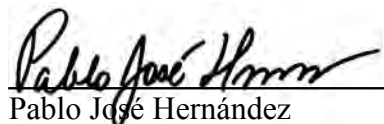
Adelita S. Grijalva
Member of Congress



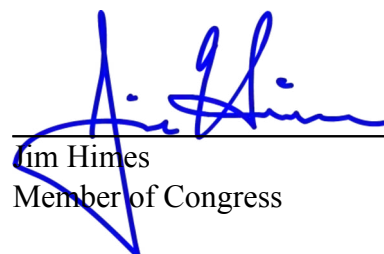
Josh Harder
Member of Congress



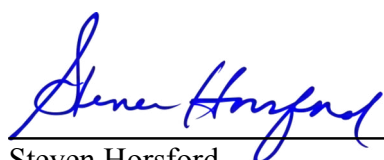
Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



Pablo José Hernández
Member of Congress



Jim Himes
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



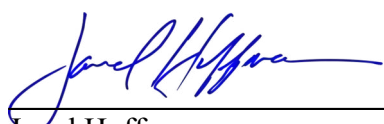
Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



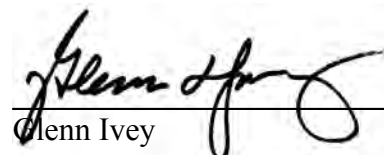
Steny H. Hoyer
Member of Congress



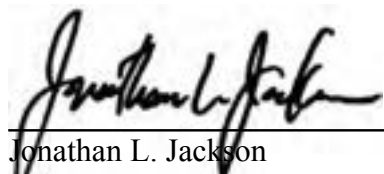
Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Glenn Ivey
Member of Congress



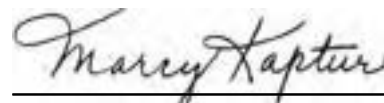
Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



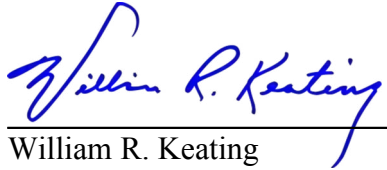
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



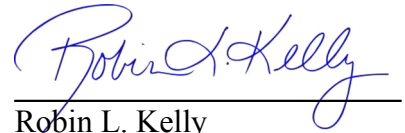
Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress



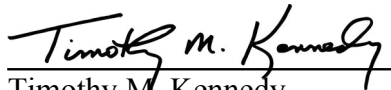
Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress



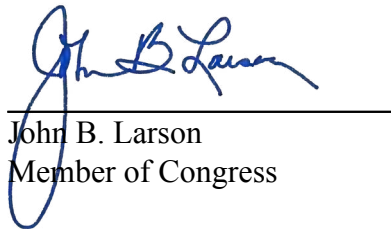
Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



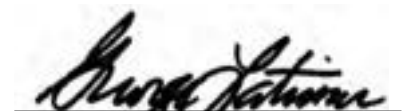
Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress



George Latimer
Member of Congress



Summer L. Lee
Member of Congress



Susie Lee
Member of Congress



Teresa Leger Fernandez
Member of Congress



Mike Levin
Member of Congress



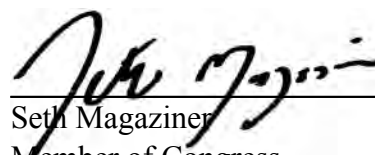
Sam T. Liccardo
Member of Congress



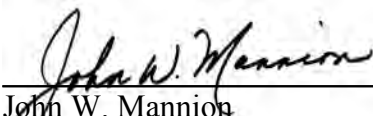
Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Seth Magaziner
Member of Congress



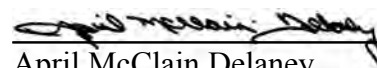
John W. Mannion
Member of Congress



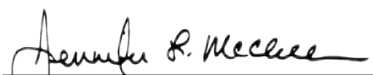
Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



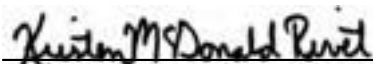
April McClain Delaney
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



Kristen McDonald Rivet
Member of Congress



Morgan McGarvey
Member of Congress



LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



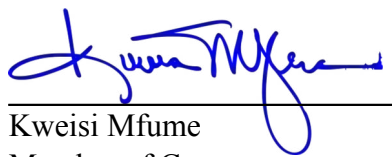
Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress



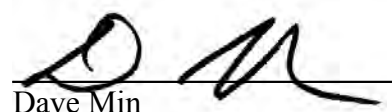
Robert J. Menendez
Member of Congress



Grace Meng
Member of Congress



Kweisi Mfume
Member of Congress



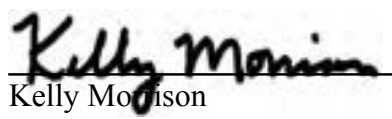
Dave Min
Member of Congress



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



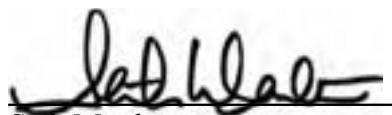
Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress



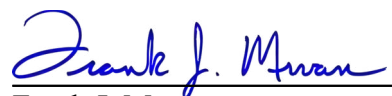
Kelly Morrison
Member of Congress



Jared Moskowitz
Member of Congress



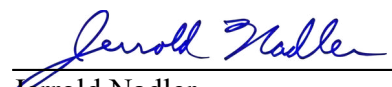
Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



Frank J. Mrvan
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



Terrold Nadler
Member of Congress



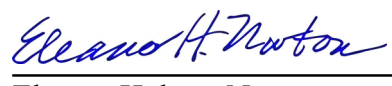
Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress



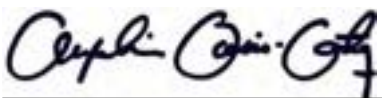
Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



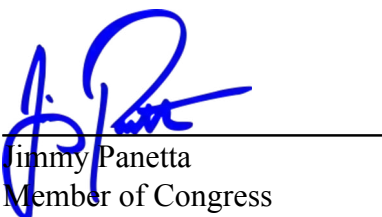
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Marie Gluesenkamp Perez
Member of Congress



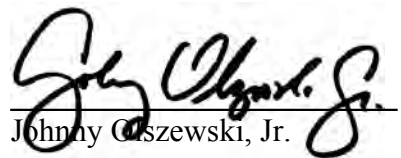
Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress



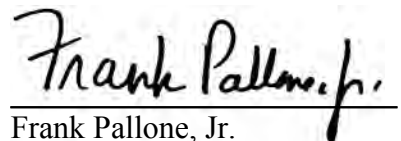
Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress



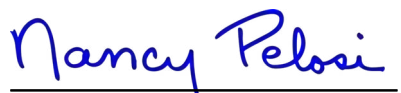
Josh Riley
Member of Congress



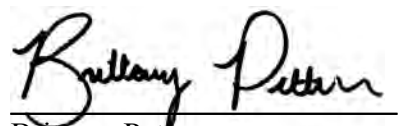
Johnny Giszewski, Jr.
Member of Congress



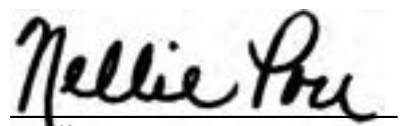
Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



Nancy Pelosi
Member of Congress



Brittany Petersen
Member of Congress



Nellie Pou
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



Luz M. Rivas
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



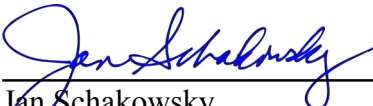
Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress



Patrick Ryan
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Bradley Scott Schneider
Member of Congress



Hillary J. Scholten
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress



David Scott
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



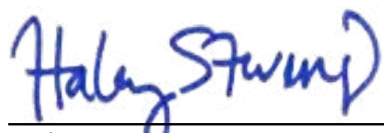
Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress



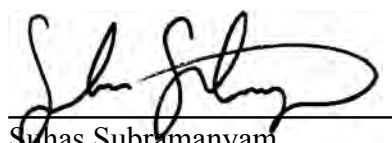
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Melanie Stansbury
Member of Congress



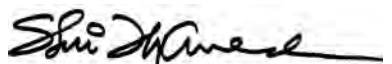
Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



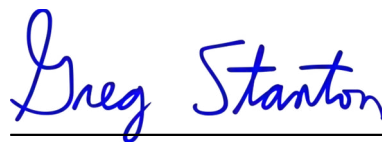
Shri Thanedar
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



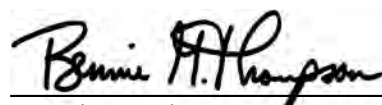
Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress



Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress



Emilia Strong Sykes
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



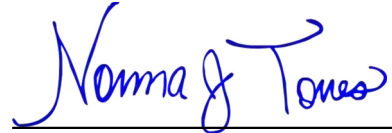
Dina Titus
Member of Congress



Jim Tokuda
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress



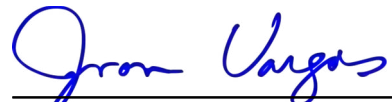
Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress



Lauren Underwood
Member of Congress



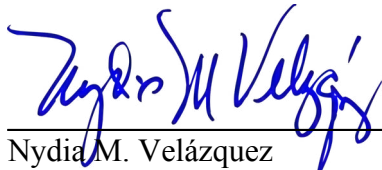
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Gabe Vasquez
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



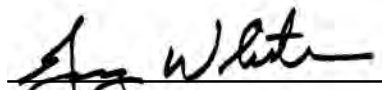
Eugene Simon Vindman
Member of Congress



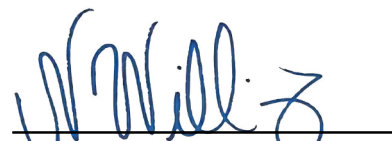
James R. Walkinshaw
Member of Congress



Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



George Whitesides
Member of Congress



Nikema Williams
Member of Congress

Frederica S. Wilson

Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress