



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

US

21 April 2008

Dear Senator Feingold,

I would like to thank you for your letter of 29 February 2008, regarding the peace process between the Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). I appreciate your interest in this conflict that has displaced more than 1.7 million people in Uganda and the subregion, claimed thousands of lives and prevented the development of the country, particularly in the north. The financial contribution made by your country in support of the African Observers has enhanced their role of building confidence between the parties and the mediation.

The overall situation in Northern Uganda has steadily improved since the August 2006 signing of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement. Due to the improvement of the security situation and progress in the talks, over 1 million internally displaced persons and refugees have returned to their places of origin or are in the process of doing so. The United Nations is currently providing assistance for this return and reconstruction process through a Consolidated Appeal for US\$374 million in 2008, and all relevant United Nations agencies are active in the conflict-affected areas of Northern Uganda.

The appointment of my Special Envoy, former President Joaquim Chissano, and his increased presence in the region gave new impetus to the peace process. In fact, the United Nations has been more than an observer at the talks. Mr. Chissano's role has been instrumental in putting the peace talks back on track, and he was directly responsible for the resumption of the talks in Juba in March 2007. The commitment of donors to support the talks was also decisive in this regard.

Since February 2008, the parties have demonstrated their determination to conclude the talks. While we all agree that stability in Uganda is founded primarily on the efforts of Ugandans, the continued support of your country, as well as that of other international partners, remains crucial to bring about lasting peace and stability in Northern Uganda and the neighbouring countries affected by LRA activities.

The Honourable Russell Feingold  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C.

APR 22 2008

28-02662 / 28-04123


The Peace, Recovery and Development Plan for Northern Uganda (PRDP) is, in this regard, one of the key tools to regain and consolidate peace and lay the foundation for recovery, development and stability in Northern Uganda. Successful peace talks will create an environment for economic revitalization and sustainable development in Northern Uganda, and will have a positive effect on regional peace and security.

The United Nations and its non-governmental partners are directly engaged with the authorities on PRDP planning. Under the leadership of the United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, the humanitarian, human rights and development communities are fully committed to providing technical and financial support to ensure that the PRDP can deliver a peace dividend to the people of Uganda.

We are now at a crucial time in the peace process. We believe that the Agreement provides a framework for peace and justice to go hand in hand, calling for prosecution within Uganda of those accused of serious war crimes and offering other important provisions to address the legacy of the violence, such as reparations and a truth commission-style body to investigate the past.

As we await the conclusion of the peace process, I wish to reaffirm my intention to remain firmly engaged in this process through my Special Envoy. I am in the process of strengthening the Office of the Special Envoy in Kampala in order to ensure a continued presence and follow-up during the implementation phase of the Final Peace Agreement. I wish to assure you of the continued support of the United Nations to the Government and people of Uganda in their efforts to secure peace and stability in their country and the subregion.

Yours sincerely,



BAN Ki-moon

United Nations



Nations Unies

Executive Office of the Secretary-General  
Cabinet du Secrétaire général

To: Mr. Nambiar,

Please find attached, for your approval and SG's signature 39 letters addressed to Members of Congress of the United States of America concerning the Juba Peace Talks between the Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'N. Haysom', followed by a horizontal line.

Nicholas Haysom

21 April 2008

Cc: KWS

28-04123

Premier's Co Log  
28-02652

Note to Mr. Nambiar

NH  
VN  
RO



**Draft reply from the Secretary-General to Members of the United States Congress concerning the Juba Peace Talks between the Government of Uganda and the LRA**

Please find attached, for your approval, a draft letter from the Secretary-General to Members of the US Congress concerning the Juba peace talks.

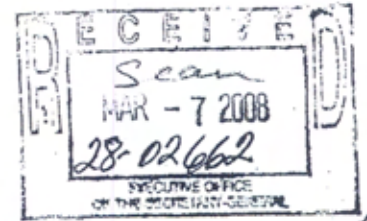
B. Lynn Pascoe  
14 April 2008



Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

ACTION  
COPY

R.O.  
Mr. Pascoe  
Mr. Holmes



UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon  
UN Headquarters  
First Avenue at 46th Street  
New York, NY 10017

February 29, 2008

Dear Mr. Secretary General:

We are writing to you today out of concern regarding the crisis in northern Uganda and to appeal for increased United Nations support of current efforts to achieve implemented and lasting peace in the region.

As you know, the peace negotiations being held in Juba, southern Sudan between the Government of Uganda and Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) are widely acknowledged as the best chance to end the 20 year-old rebel insurgency in northern Uganda. The ongoing talks, which began in 2006, have already led to dramatic improvements in regional security and new hope among war-affected communities in northern Uganda and southern Sudan. The signing of a permanent ceasefire last weekend is a momentous step for northern Uganda and the region. Approximately 300,000 of the 1.8 million people displaced by the crisis have already been able to return home and are beginning the process of recovery and economic development. The toughest challenges remain, however: implementing the \$600 million Peace, Recovery and Development Plan for Northern Uganda (PRDP) and devising accountability and political representation arrangements that suit both parties.

We welcome the steps taken by our own government thus far to help ensure the success of the Juba peace talks and resulting agreements. In particular, we applaud the recent decision of the United States – along with the European Union – to take on an official observer's status. Both the Ugandan and LRA delegations were pleased, and chief mediator, Dr. Riek Machar, heralded this step “as an indication that the whole world wants Uganda to be peaceful.”

Unfortunately, the negotiations continue to be threatened by a lack of resources, trust, and accountability. The U.S. and the E.U. are limited in the influence and authority they can wield, as well as the type and amount of assistance they can provide. African leadership of the process, which has been laudable in its efforts to keep the warring parties committed to peacefully resolving the conflict, would be significantly enhanced by more formal and consistent support from the United Nations. The cross-border nature and repercussions of this conflict makes it a legitimate threat to regional and international security, the explicit realm of UN authority.

The UN's envoy, Joachim Chissano, is well respected by all parties in Juba, but his limited presence and mandate severely limit his ability to contribute to the process, products, or execution of these historic talks. Empowering Chissano to engage as a formal observer and as a guarantor of any final agreement reached by the parties would help build confidence and add much-needed leverage and accountability to the peace process.

Similarly, the United Nations has a great deal to offer in the way of humanitarian and technical assistance towards the timely and complete implementation of the PRDP. This reconstruction program is the first step towards addressing the root causes of the conflict in northern Uganda, where citizens have been neglected and persecuted for decades. In the first year of this four-year plan, it will be essential to demonstrate an observable peace dividend and national and international commitment to foster the socio-economic development the people of this conflict-torn region have been promised.

To improve the prospect of reaching a consolidated peace agreement and achieving stability and development throughout Uganda and the region, we urge you to press for more diplomatic and material support from the United Nations in Juba and northern Uganda. We specifically call for official UN observer status at the peace talks and increased assistance for implementation of the PRDP. These public gestures would not only build confidence in the negotiations process by showing the international community's committed investment in peace, but would also advance long-term humanitarian and security interests in this troubled region.

We look forward to hearing how you plan to enhance United Nations assistance efforts in this region and thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

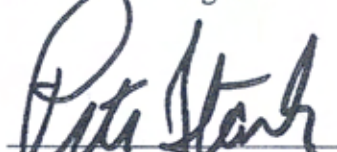
Sincerely,


  

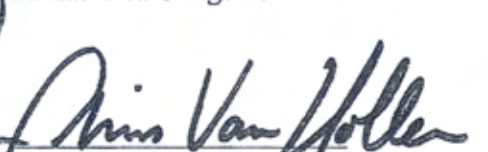
Russell Feingold  
Member of Congress


Sam Brownback  
Member of Congress

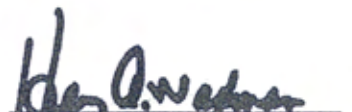
Jim McDermott  
Member of Congress

  
Pete Portney Stark  
Member of Congress

  
David Wu  
Member of Congress

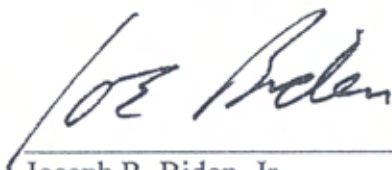
  
Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress

  
John Lewis  
Member of Congress

  
Henry Waxman  
Member of Congress

  
Frank Wolf  
Member of Congress

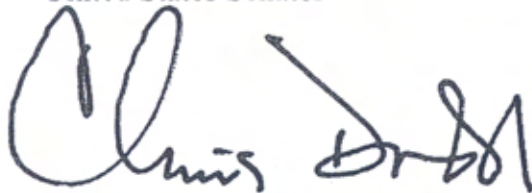




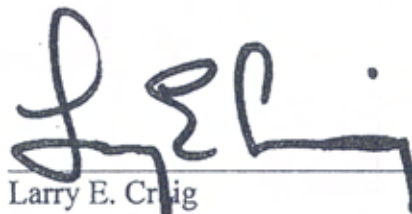
Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
United States Senator



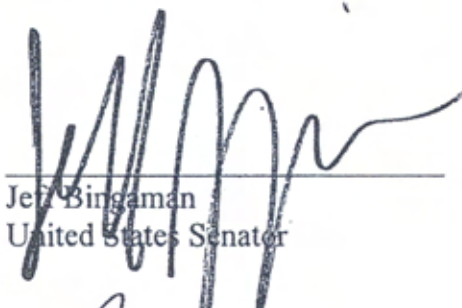
Norm Coleman  
United States Senator



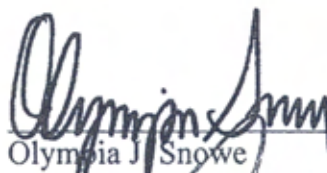
Christopher J. Dodd  
United States Senator



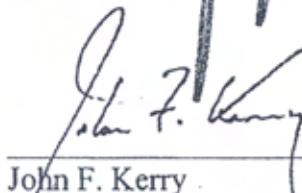
Larry E. Craig  
United States Senator



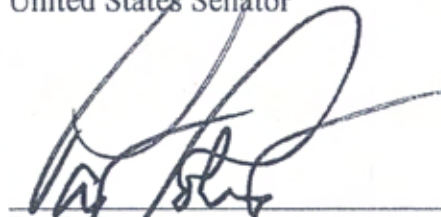
Jeff Bingaman  
United States Senator



Olympia J. Snowe  
United States Senator



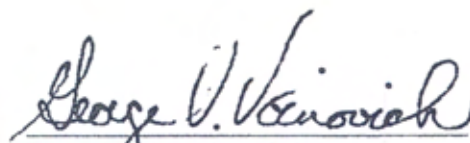
John F. Kerry  
United States Senator



Pat Roberts  
United States Senator



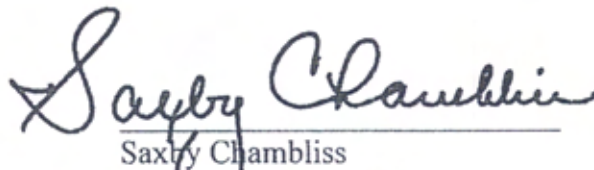
John D. Rockefeller, IV  
United States Senator



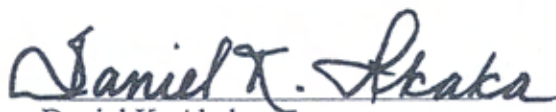
George V. Voinovich  
United States Senator



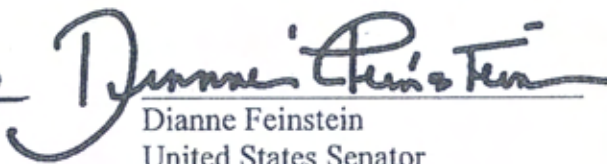
Joseph I. Lieberman  
United States Senator



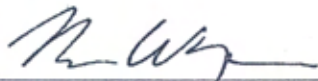
Saxby Chambliss  
United States Senator



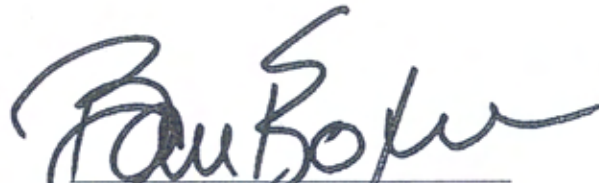
Daniel K. Akaka  
United States Senator



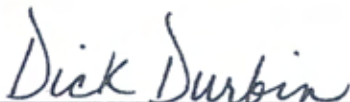
Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator



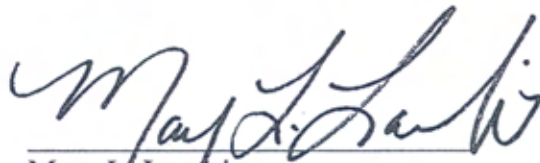
Ron Wyden  
United States Senator



Barbara Boxer  
United States Senator



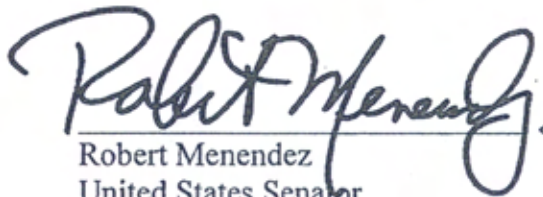
Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Mary L. Landrieu  
United States Senator



Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator




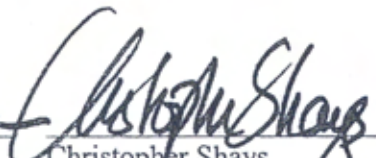
Robert Menendez  
United States Senator

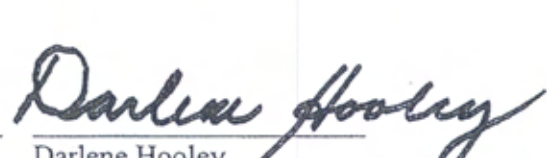


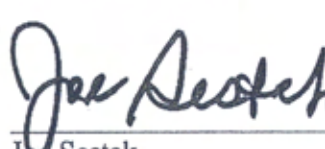
Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator




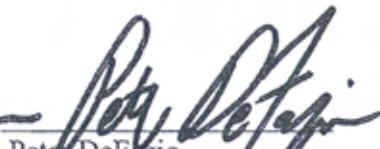
  
Susan Davis  
Member of Congress

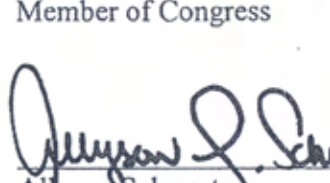
  
Christopher Shays  
Member of Congress

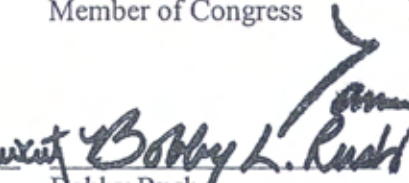
  
Darlene Hooley  
Member of Congress

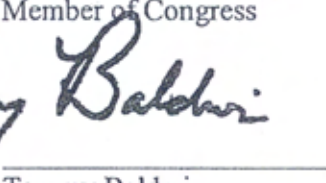
  
Joe Sestak  
Member of Congress

  
Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress

  
Peter DeFazio  
Member of Congress

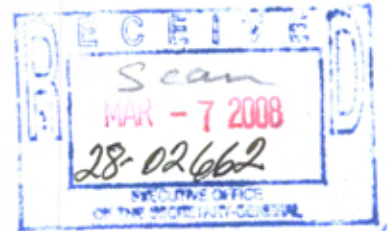
  
Allyson Schwartz  
Member of Congress

  
Bobby L. Rush  
Member of Congress

  
Tammy Baldwin  
Member of Congress

cc: Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad

US  
Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515



ACTION COPY *R.O.*  
*Mr. Pascoe*  
*Mr. Holmes*

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon  
UN Headquarters  
First Avenue at 46th Street  
New York, NY 10017

February 29, 2008

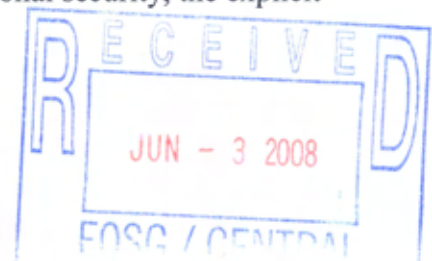
Dear Mr. Secretary General:

We are writing to you today out of concern regarding the crisis in northern Uganda and to appeal for increased United Nations support of current efforts to achieve implemented and lasting peace in the region.

As you know, the peace negotiations being held in Juba, southern Sudan between the Government of Uganda and Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) are widely acknowledged as the best chance to end the 20 year-old rebel insurgency in northern Uganda. The ongoing talks, which began in 2006, have already led to dramatic improvements in regional security and new hope among war-affected communities in northern Uganda and southern Sudan. The signing of a permanent ceasefire last weekend is a momentous step for northern Uganda and the region. Approximately 300,000 of the 1.8 million people displaced by the crisis have already been able to return home and are beginning the process of recovery and economic development. The toughest challenges remain, however: implementing the \$600 million Peace, Recovery and Development Plan for Northern Uganda (PRDP) and devising accountability and political representation arrangements that suit both parties.

We welcome the steps taken by our own government thus far to help ensure the success of the Juba peace talks and resulting agreements. In particular, we applaud the recent decision of the United States – along with the European Union – to take on an official observer's status. Both the Ugandan and LRA delegations were pleased, and chief mediator, Dr. Riek Machar, heralded this step “as an indication that the whole world wants Uganda to be peaceful.”

Unfortunately, the negotiations continue to be threatened by a lack of resources, trust, and accountability. The U.S. and the E.U. are limited in the influence and authority they can wield, as well as the type and amount of assistance they can provide. African leadership of the process, which has been laudable in its efforts to keep the warring parties committed to peacefully resolving the conflict, would be significantly enhanced by more formal and consistent support from the United Nations. The cross-border nature and repercussions of this conflict makes it a legitimate threat to regional and international security, the explicit realm of UN authority.





The UN's envoy, Joachim Chissano, is well respected by all parties in Juba, but his limited presence and mandate severely limit his ability to contribute to the process, products, or execution of these historic talks. Empowering Chissano to engage as a formal observer and as a guarantor of any final agreement reached by the parties would help build confidence and add much-needed leverage and accountability to the peace process.

Similarly, the United Nations has a great deal to offer in the way of humanitarian and technical assistance towards the timely and complete implementation of the PRDP. This reconstruction program is the first step towards addressing the root causes of the conflict in northern Uganda, where citizens have been neglected and persecuted for decades. In the first year of this four-year plan, it will be essential to demonstrate an observable peace dividend and national and international commitment to foster the socio-economic development the people of this conflict-torn region have been promised.

To improve the prospect of reaching a consolidated peace agreement and achieving stability and development throughout Uganda and the region, we urge you to press for more diplomatic and material support from the United Nations in Juba and northern Uganda. We specifically call for official UN observer status at the peace talks and increased assistance for implementation of the PRDP. These public gestures would not only build confidence in the negotiations process by showing the international community's committed investment in peace, but would also advance long-term humanitarian and security interests in this troubled region.

We look forward to hearing how you plan to enhance United Nations assistance efforts in this region and thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

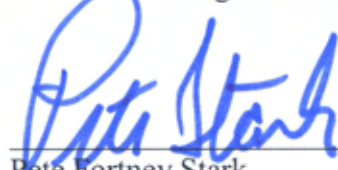
Sincerely,



Russell Feingold  
Member of Congress

Sam Brownback  
Member of Congress

Jim McDermott  
Member of Congress



Pete Fortney Stark  
Member of Congress



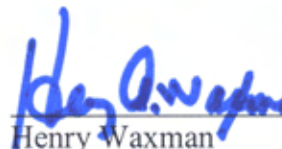
David Wu  
Member of Congress



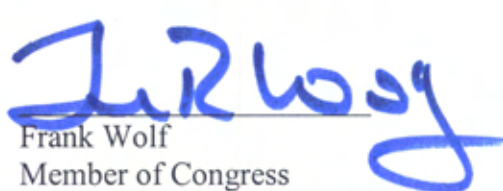
Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress



John Lewis  
Member of Congress



Henry Waxman  
Member of Congress



Frank Wolf  
Member of Congress

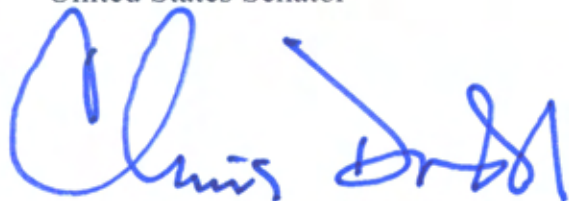




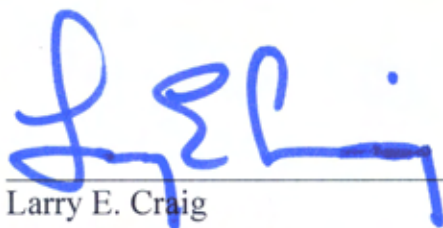
Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
United States Senator



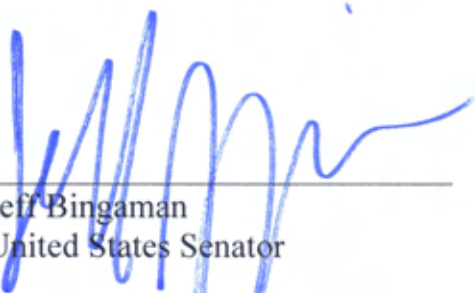
Norm Coleman  
United States Senator



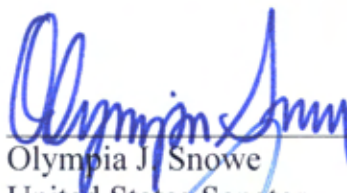
Christopher J. Dodd  
United States Senator



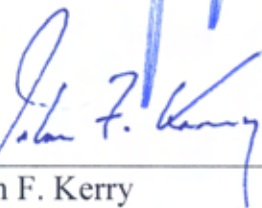
Larry E. Craig  
United States Senator



Jeff Bingaman  
United States Senator



Olympia J. Snowe  
United States Senator



John F. Kerry  
United States Senator



Pat Roberts  
United States Senator



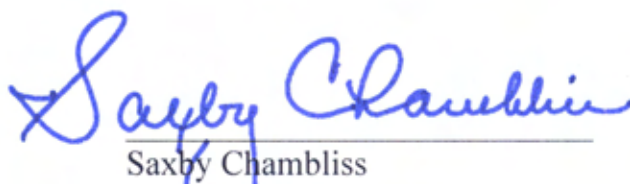
John D. Rockefeller, IV  
United States Senator



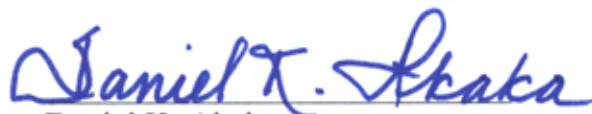
George V. Voinovich  
United States Senator



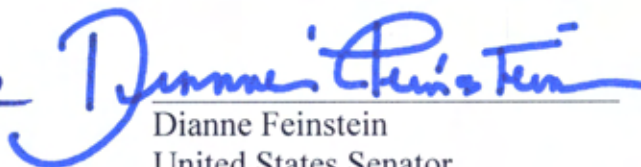
Joseph I. Lieberman  
United States Senator



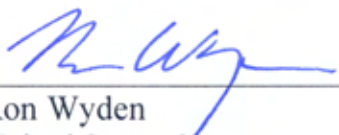
Saxby Chambliss  
United States Senator



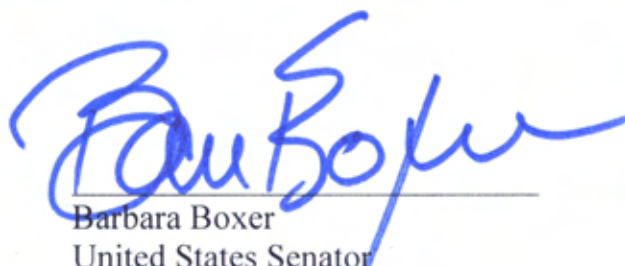
Daniel K. Akaka  
United States Senator



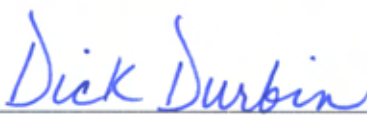
Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator



Ron Wyden  
United States Senator



Barbara Boxer  
United States Senator



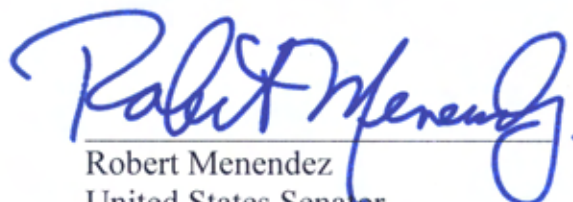
Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



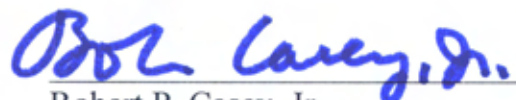
Mary L. Landrieu  
United States Senator



Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator



Robert Menendez  
United States Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator

  
Susan Davis  
Member of Congress

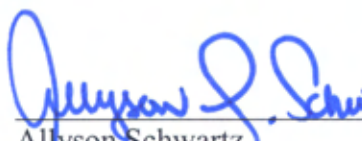
  
Christopher Shays  
Member of Congress


  
Darlene Hooley  
Member of Congress

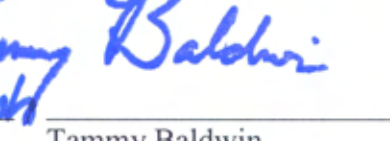
  
Joe Sestak  
Member of Congress

  
Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress

  
Peter DeFazio  
Member of Congress

  
Allyson Schwartz  
Member of Congress

  
Bobby Rush  
Member of Congress

  
Tammy Baldwin  
Member of Congress