

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 22, 2010

Representative David Obey
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS,
Education, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representative Todd Tiahrt
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS,
Education, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Obey and Ranking Member Tiahrt:

As you begin work on the fiscal year (FY) 2011 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill, we urge you to increase funding for the Title VII health professions programs at the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to \$330 million. As you know, these programs provide direct financial support for health care workforce development and education. In addition, they are the only federal programs designed to train providers in interdisciplinary settings to respond to the needs of special and underserved populations, as well as increase minority representation in the health care workforce.

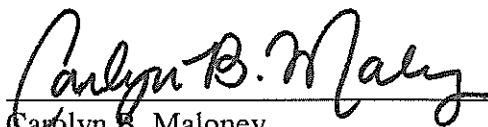
Since inception, the Title VII programs have helped increase the supply of primary care professionals, have worked to expand access to care in rural and urban underserved areas, and have increased diversity across health disciplines. However, these programs have been plagued by chronic underfunding. At a time when the nation is facing unprecedented provider shortages, a robust investment in the Title VII programs is necessary, and anything less may have a devastating impact on the country's neediest communities. A strong commitment to these programs will ensure that the distribution, quality, and diversity of the health professions workforce continues to improve and is able to meet the country's evolving and emerging health care needs.

We respectfully urge you to provide \$330 million for the Title VII programs in the FY 2011 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill. We greatly appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



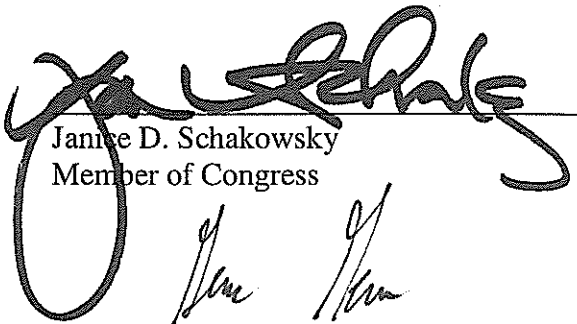
Dennis J. Kucinich
Member of Congress



David Wu
Member of Congress



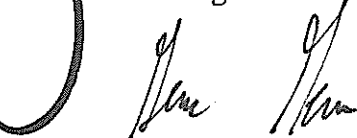
Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



Janice D. Schakowsky
Member of Congress



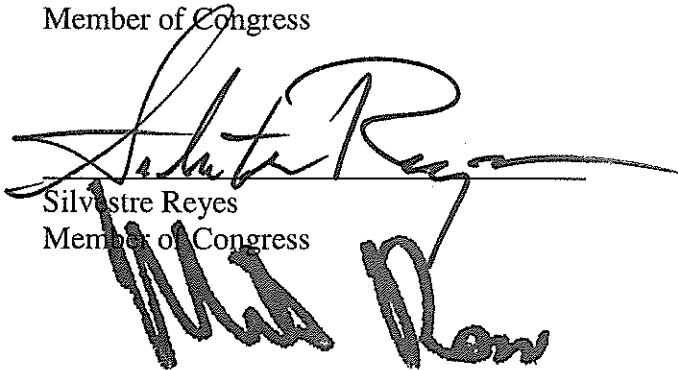
Russ Carnahan
Member of Congress



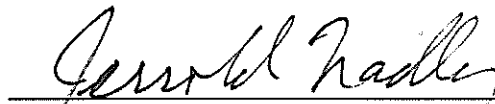
Gene Green
Member of Congress



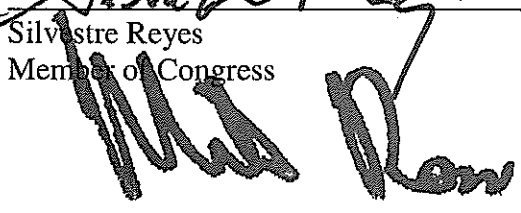
Bill Delahunt
Member of Congress



Silvestre Reyes
Member of Congress



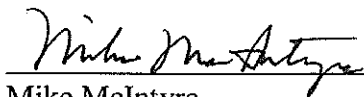
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Mike Ross
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



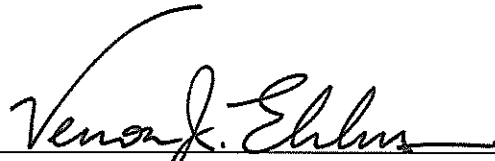
Mike McIntyre
Member of Congress



Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress




Daniel B. Maffei
Member of Congress



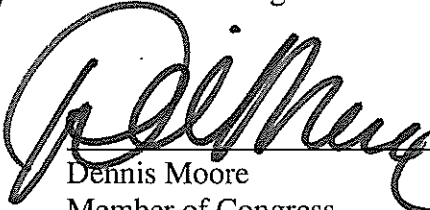
Vernon J. Ehlers
Member of Congress



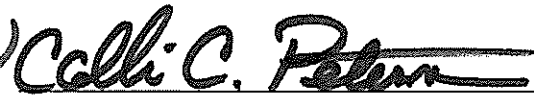
Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Henry A. Waxman
Member of Congress



Dennis Moore
Member of Congress



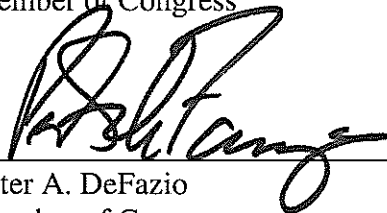
Collin C. Peterson
Member of Congress



Dale E. Kildee
Member of Congress



Barney Frank
Member of Congress



Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



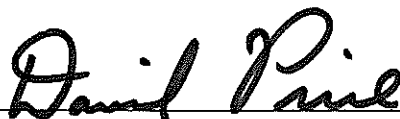
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



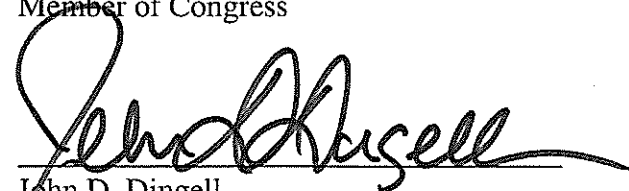
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Chaka Fattah
Member of Congress



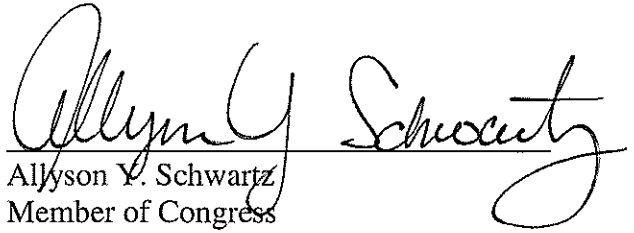
David E. Price
Member of Congress



John D. Dingell
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



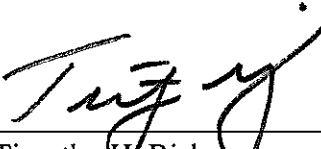
Allyson Y. Schwartz
Member of Congress



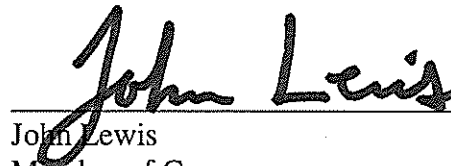
James R. Langevin
Member of Congress



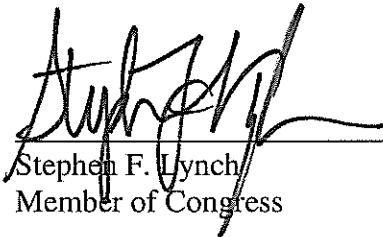
Jason Altmire
Member of Congress



Timothy H. Bishop
Member of Congress



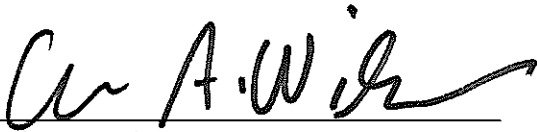
John Lewis
Member of Congress



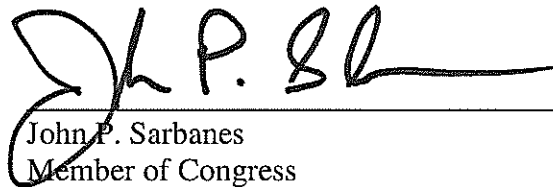
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



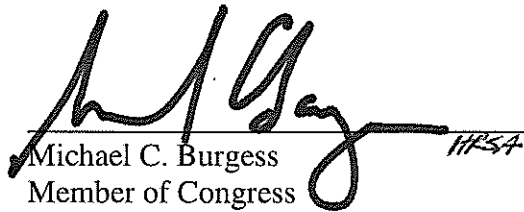
Michael F. Doyle
Member of Congress



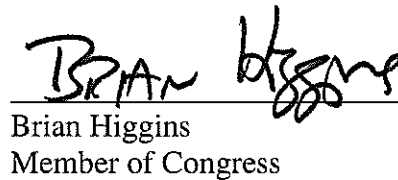
Charles A. Wilson
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



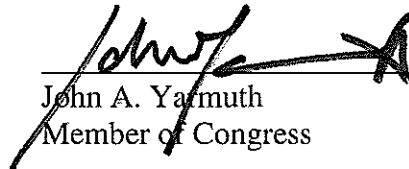
Michael C. Burgess
Member of Congress



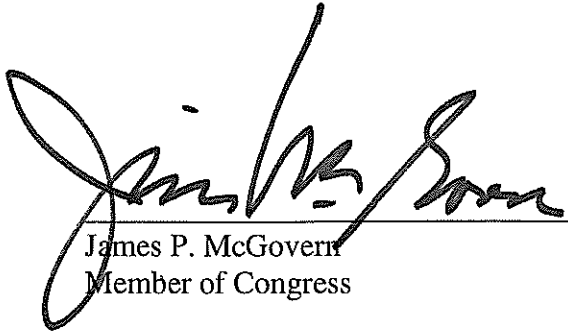
Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



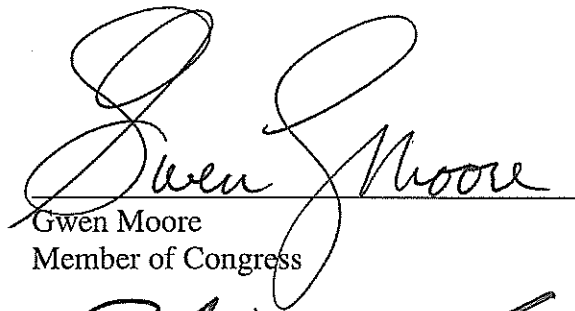
Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



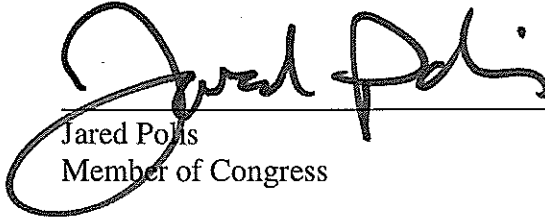
John A. Yarmuth
Member of Congress



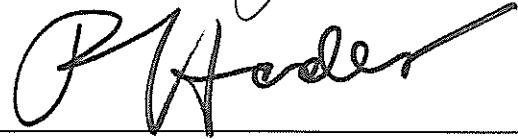
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



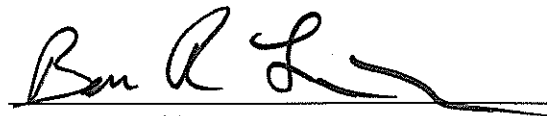
Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



Jared Polis
Member of Congress



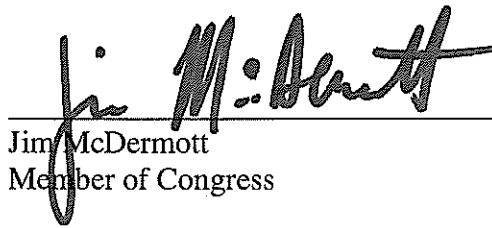
Paul W. Hodes
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Luján
Member of Congress



Carol Shea-Porter
Member of Congress



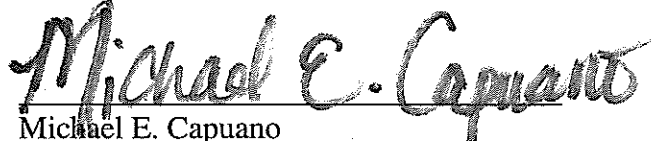
Jim McDermott
Member of Congress



Ron Kind
Member of Congress



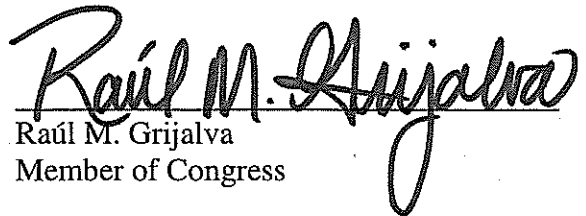
Lois Capps
Member of Congress



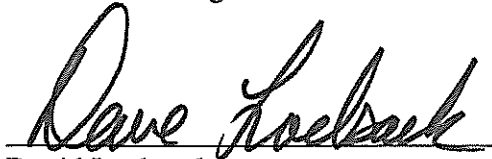
Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



David Loebbeck
Member of Congress



Earl Pomeroy
Member of Congress



Tammy Baldwin
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Maurice D. Hinchey
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Edolphus Towns
Member of Congress