

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 21, 2011

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C., 20515

The Honorable Norman Dicks
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C., 20515

The Honorable Denny Rehberg
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS & Education
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS & Education
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Rogers and Rehberg and Ranking Members Dicks and DeLauro:

As Members of Congress who strongly value the role of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in job creation, economic growth, and bettering the lives of millions of Americans, we respectfully request a funding level of at least \$32 billion for FY 2012. We feel this level is absolutely vital in order for NIH to sustain its mission of improving health through medical science breakthroughs and maintaining international leadership in science and biomedical research.

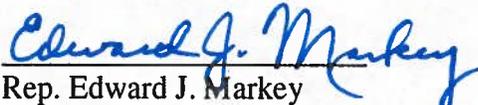
Every family is one phone call or doctor's visit away from needing the promise of NIH research. With federal funding of at least \$32 billion, NIH can continue to serve as the world's preeminent medical research institution and our nation's best hope for finding cures, improving treatments, and gaining a better understanding of the complex causes of diseases that affect millions of Americans. NIH researchers are making groundbreaking progress against major diseases and conditions, like finding better methods of early detection for Alzheimer's Disease, lung cancer, heart disease, and stroke, as well as improving treatment for substance abuse. And in FY2012, NIH will continue an innovative program to speed the translation of basic scientific discoveries into therapies and treatments that benefit patients.

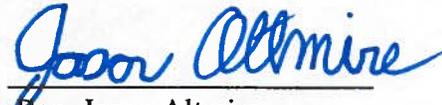
NIH is also a key pillar of our economic recovery, generating high-paying jobs in the cutting-edge biomedical research industry and keeping America competitive in biomedical science. More than 80 percent of NIH's budget supports over 350,000 scientist and research personnel, as well as the acquisition of goods and services from every state.

Through NIH, we are also training the next generation of researchers who will maintain America's ability to advance medical science and protect our competitive edge in this field. Robust investment in NIH is vital if we want to discover the next medical breakthrough in America and not import it from China or India.

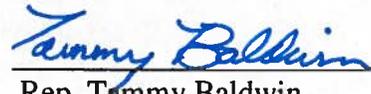
While some of us, as well as many patient advocates and biomedical researchers, feel that \$35 billion is what is truly needed to sustain NIH's research and public health missions, we understand the unprecedented budgetary constraints faced by the Appropriations Committee. In light of the difficult decisions ahead, we want to stress the importance of NIH as a job creator, a driver of economic growth, and a vital tool in curbing our nation's soaring healthcare costs. We appreciate your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

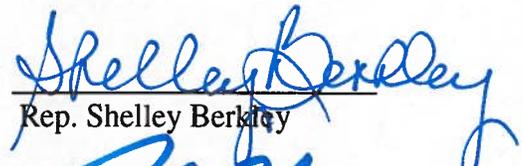

Rep. Edward J. Markey

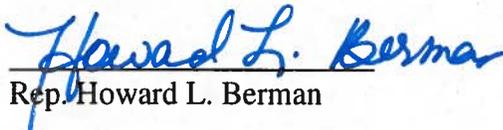

Rep. Jason Altmire


Rep. Rob Andrews


Rep. Tammy Baldwin


Rep. Karen Bass


Rep. Shelley Berkley


Rep. Howard L. Berman

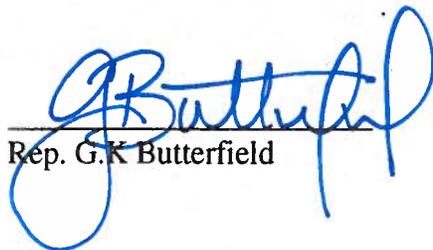

Rep. Earl Blumenaur

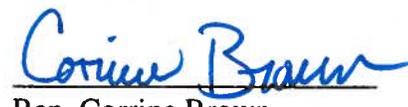

Rep. Madeleine Bordallo

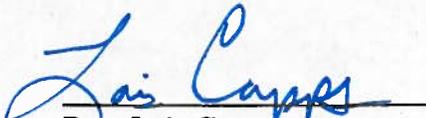

Rep. Leonard Boswell

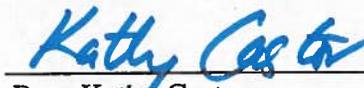

Rep. Robert Brady


Rep. Bruce Braley


Rep. G.K. Butterfield


Rep. Corrine Brown

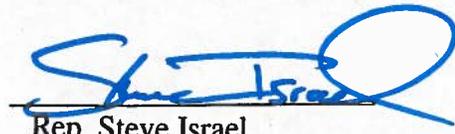

Rep. Lois Capps

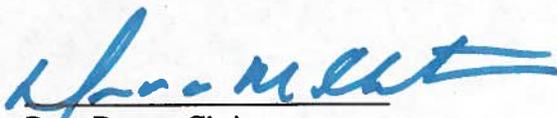

Rep. Kathy Castor

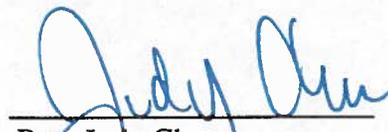

Rep. Russ Carnahan

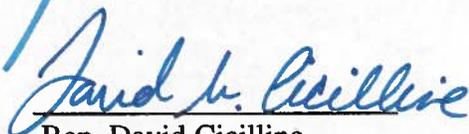

Rep. Michael Capuano


Rep. Andre Carson

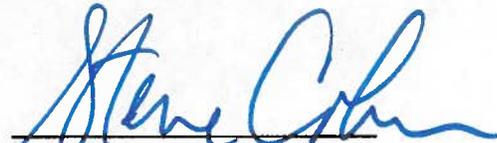

Rep. Steve Israel


Rep. Donna Christensen

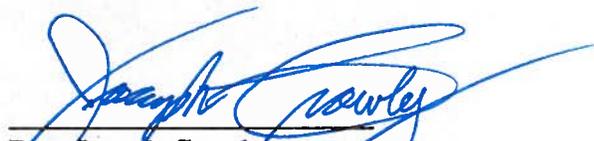

Rep. Judy Chu

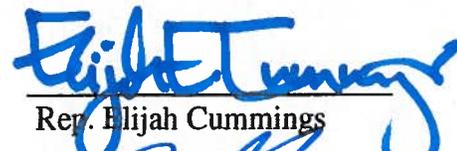

Rep. David Cicilline


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Rep. Joseph Crowley


Rep. Elijah Cummings

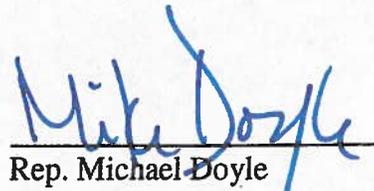

Rep. Susan Davis


Rep. Peter DeFazio

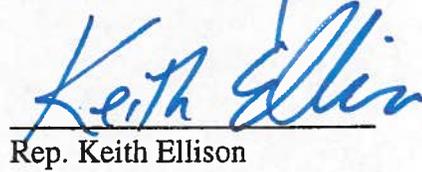

Rep. Diana DeGette


Rep. Ted Deutch

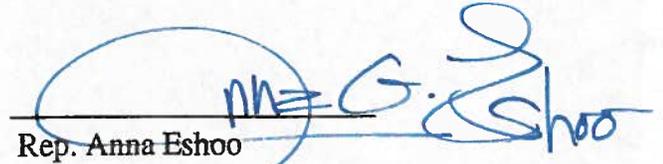

Rep. John Dingell

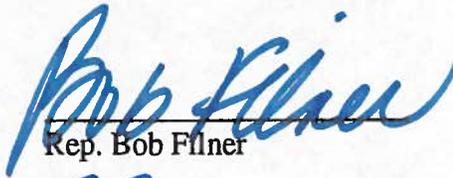

Rep. Michael Doyle


Rep. Donna Edwards

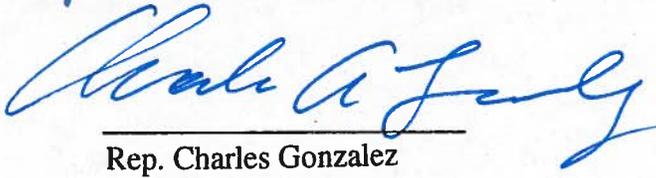

Rep. Keith Ellison

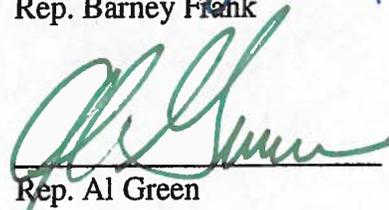

Rep. Eliot Engel

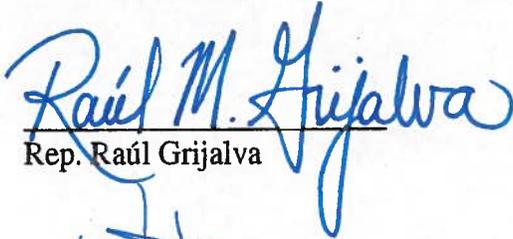

Rep. Anna Eshoo

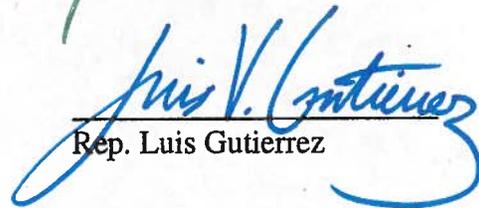

Rep. Bob Filner


Rep. Barney Frank


Rep. Charles Gonzalez


Rep. Al Green

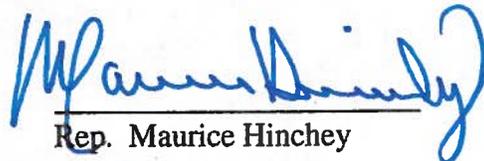

Rep. Raúl Grijalva


Rep. Luis Gutierrez

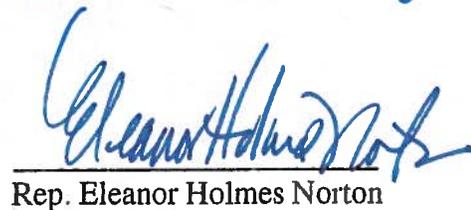

Rep. Colleen Hanabusa


Rep. Alcee Hastings


Rep. Brian Higgins


Rep. Maurice Hinchey


Rep. Mazie Hirono


Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton

Rush Holt

Rep. Rush Holt

Sheila Jackson Lee

Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee

Hank Johnson

Rep. Hank Johnson

Dale E. Kildee

Rep. Dale Kildee

Larry Kissel

Rep. Larry Kissel

Jim Langevin

Rep. James Langevin

Sander Levin

Rep. Sander Levin

Daniel Lipinski

Rep. Daniel Lipinski

Zoe Lofgren

Rep. Zoe Lofgren

Jay Inslee

Rep. Jay Inslee

Eddie Bernice Johnson

Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson

William R. Keating

Rep. William Keating

Ron Kind

Rep. Ron Kind

Dennis Kucinich

Rep. Dennis Kucinich

Rick Larsen

Rep. Rick Larsen

John Lewis

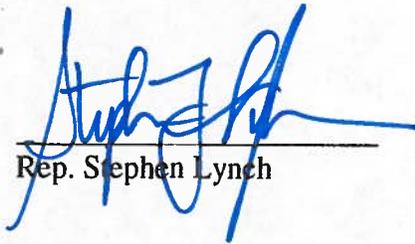
Rep. John Lewis

Dave Loebsack

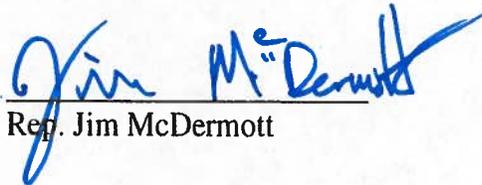
Rep. David Loebsack

Ben Ray Lujan

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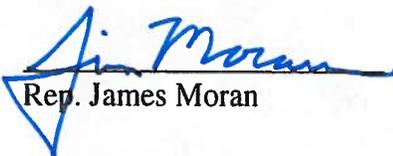

Rep. Stephen Lynch


Rep. Doris Matsui


Rep. Jim McDermott

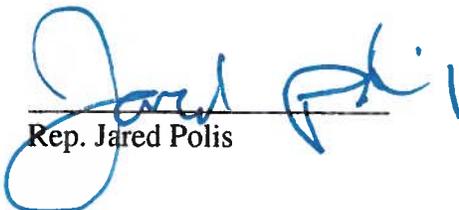

Rep. Mike McIntyre

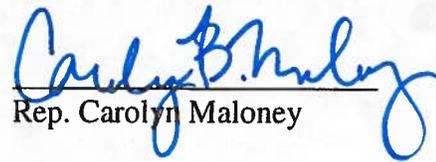

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Rep. Richard E. Neal


Rep. John W. Olver


Rep. Jared Polis


Rep. Carolyn Maloney


Rep. Carolyn McCarthy


Rep. James McGovern

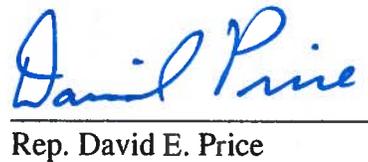

Rep. Gregory Meeks

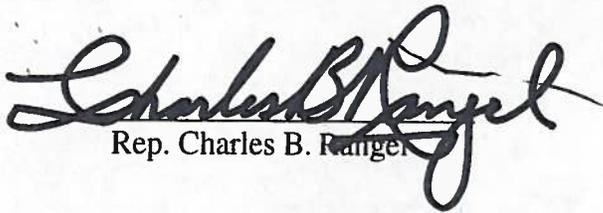

Rep. Brad Miller


Rep. Christopher Murphy

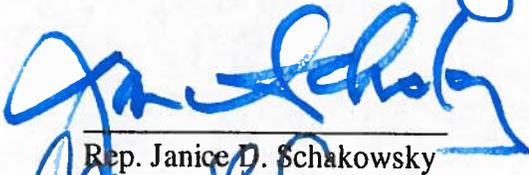

Rep. Grace F. Napolitano

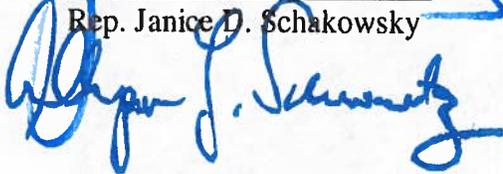

Rep. Chellie Pingree

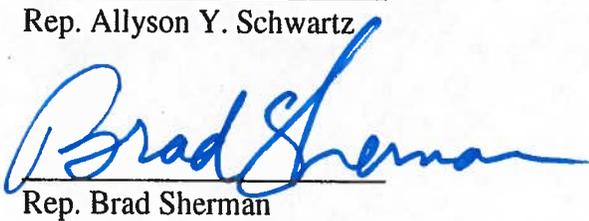

Rep. David E. Price

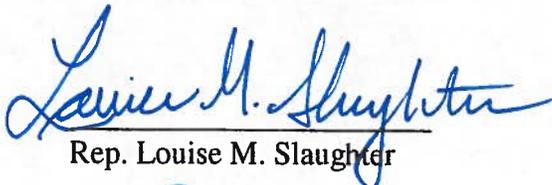

Rep. Charles B. Rangel

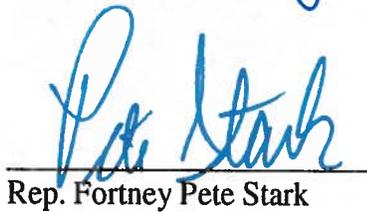

Rep. Linda Sánchez

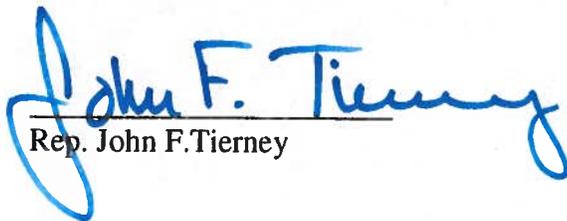

Rep. Janice D. Schakowsky


Rep. Allyson Y. Schwartz


Rep. Brad Sherman


Rep. Louise M. Slaughter


Rep. Fortney Pete Stark


Rep. John F. Tierney


Rep. Edolphus "Ed" Towns



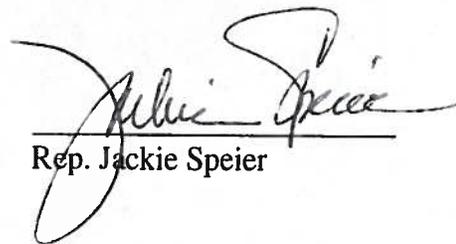

Rep. Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan


Rep. John P. Sarbanes


Rep. Kurt Schrader


Rep. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott


Rep. Heath Shuler


Rep. Jackie Speier


Rep. Betty Sutton


Rep. Paul Tonko

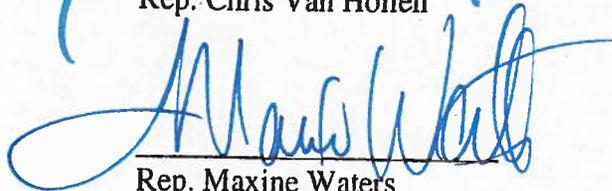

Rep. Niki Tsongas



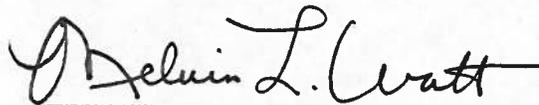
Rep. Chris Van Hollen



Rep. Timothy J. Walz



Rep. Maxine Waters



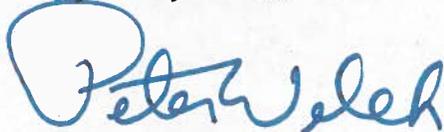
Rep. Melvin L. Watt



Rep. Henry A. Waxman



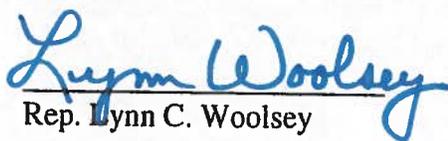
Rep. Anthony Weiner



Rep. Peter Welch



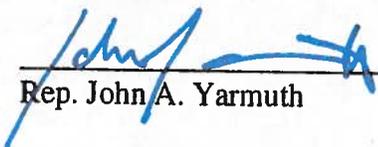
Rep. Frederica S. Wilson



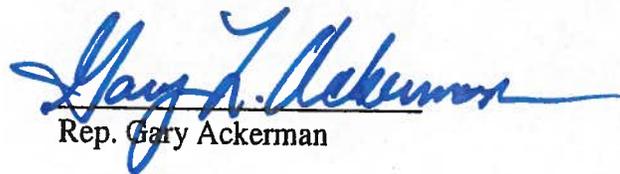
Rep. Lynn C. Woolsey



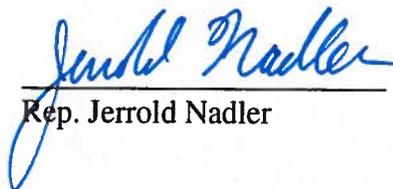
Rep. David Wu



Rep. John A. Yarmuth



Rep. Gary Ackerman



Rep. Jerrold Nadler