

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

March 20, 2012

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

The Honorable C.W. Bill Young
Chairman, Defense Appropriations
Subcommittee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Chairman Rogers, Chairman Young, and Ranking Member Dicks:

You and the other Members of the Appropriations Committee will be working hard to identify savings during the upcoming appropriations process. As you work to identify these savings, we ask you to consider significant reductions in the nuclear weapons budget. We have identified a number of programs in this budget that should be reduced, delayed, or cancelled.

We request that you make reductions to the following programs in FY2013:

- Approve no funds for the development of the SSBN(X), the submarine that will eventually replace the Ohio-class submarines.
- Approve funds for the maintenance and operations of no more than eight operating-at-sea Ohio-class nuclear-armed submarines.
- Approve funds for the maintenance and operations of no more than 250 Trident submarine-launched ballistic missiles.
- Approve no funds for the development program for the next long-range bomber aircraft.
- Approve no funds for the operations of nuclear missions of the B-2 and B-52 bomber aircraft.
- Approve no funds for the development of a new intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).
- Approve funds for the maintenance and operations of no more than 200 ICBMs.
- Approve no funds the Medium Extended Air Defense System program.

We would also like you to be aware that we are requesting that the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Subcommittee make the following cuts to the nuclear weapons complex:

- Approve no funds for the Life Extension Program for the B61 bomb.
- Approve no funds for the Life Extension Program for the W78 warhead.
- Approve no funds for the further development and construction of the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility at the Savannah River Site.

- Approve no funds for the further development and construction of the Uranium Processing Facility at the Y-12 National Security Complex.
- Approve no funds for the further development and construction of the Chemistry Metallurgy Research Replacement nuclear facility at the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

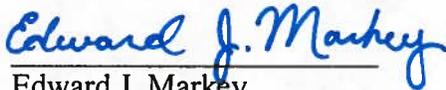
Each of these recommendations is included in H.R. 3974, the Smarter Approach to Nuclear Expenditures (SANE) Act of 2012. The SANE Act, which is cosponsored by 44 members of the House of Representatives, would save \$100 billion over the next decade by making prudent cuts to the U.S. nuclear weapons budget. The Appropriators have the opportunity to lead the way on these savings by cutting wasteful and excessive nuclear weapons spending.

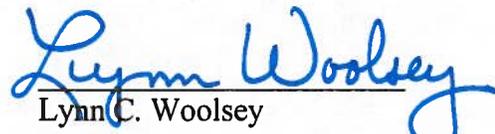
The Cold War ended more than 20 years ago, but our nuclear weapons budget does not reflect that reality. Admiral Mike Mullen has said that, "Our national debt is our biggest national security threat", yet we still plan to spend hundreds of billions of dollars over the next decade on nuclear weapons and related programs.

There is a growing consensus among arms control groups, taxpayer groups, defense analysts, and national security experts that our nuclear arsenal and forces are far larger than they should be. By choosing to cut excessive nuclear weapons spending, you will bolster our economic and national security and keep us focused on the threats and challenges we face in the 21st century.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,


Edward J. Markey

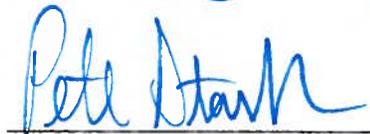

Lynn C. Woolsey

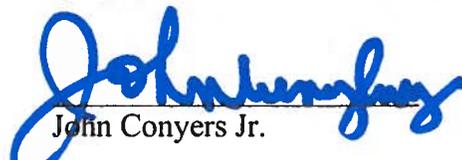

Charles Rangel

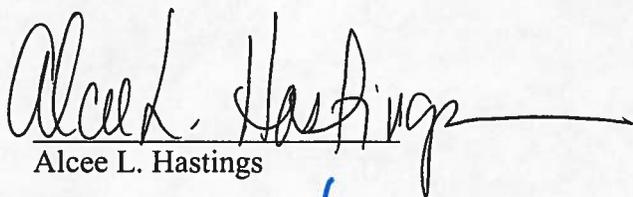

John Lewis

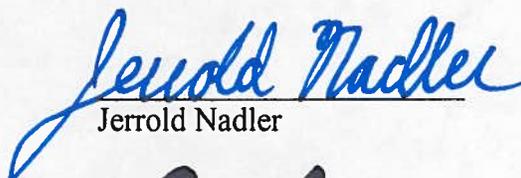

Bruce L. Braley

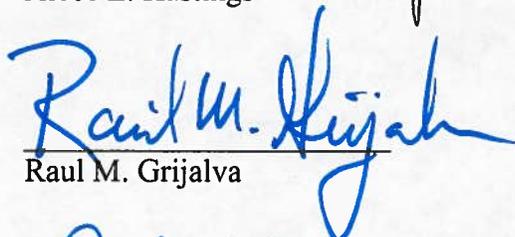

Bob Filner


Pete Stark


John Conyers Jr.


Alcee L. Hastings

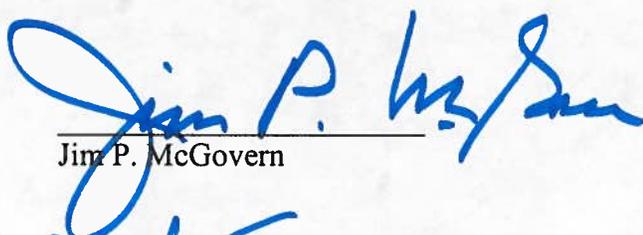

Jerrold Nadler

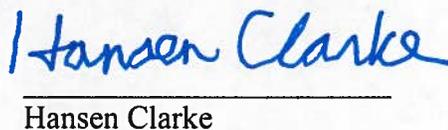

Raul M. Grijalva


Earl Blumenauer


Rush D. Holt

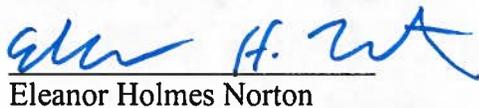

Jared Polis

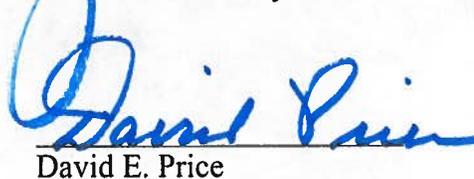

Jim P. McGovern


Hansen Clarke


Jackie Speier


Jan D. Schakowsky


Eleanor Holmes Norton


David E. Price