

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 7, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Ryan, and Leader Pelosi:

We write to express our strong opposition to President Trump's decision to rescind the modest across-the-board statutory pay increases and locality pay increases provided for the hard-working public servants in our federal workforce. We should not abandon our federal workers but rather stand by the 1.9 percent federal pay adjustment that is already included in the bipartisan and Senate-passed Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Bill for Fiscal Year 2019.

The federal government has serious business to conduct, and we must block the President's indefensible attacks on the federal workforce that we count on every day. It is obviously a cruel joke to say that federal workers and their families should suffer in the name of the President's sudden campaign for fiscal responsibility. The President's budget-busting tax bill will increase the deficit by more than \$1.5 trillion over a decade, giving tax breaks to the wealthy while leaving middle class taxpayers behind. If the President wants to "put our Nation on a fiscally sustainable course," as he claimed in his letter announcing the pay freeze, he should start with his gargantuan deficit-financed tax giveaway to the wealthy and corporations, and not the hard-won modest benefits of a federal workforce struggling to do their jobs in this unstable environment.

Federal workers have already been required to help reduce the deficit – contributing over \$200 billion towards deficit reduction since 2011. From 2011 through 2013, federal workers experienced a three-year pay freeze. In 2013, more than 750,000 federal employees were furloughed due to sequestration cuts, costing those middle-class families over \$1 billion in lost wages alone. Also, during the 2013 shutdown, upwards of 800,000 federal employees were furloughed indefinitely and another 1.3 million reported for work not knowing when they could expect their next paycheck. From 2014 through 2016, federal employees received raises lower than those required by law.

It is hard to think of another group of Americans that has been asked to give more to reduce the national deficit. We cannot continue to pretend to balance our budget on the backs of the people who process our Social Security checks, keep our airports secure, fight forest fires, promote public health, and protect our homeland. It is plainly wrong to tell millions of our fellow Americans that we can afford lavish tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans but not what amounts to a cost-of-living adjustment for the civil servants who keep the government working.

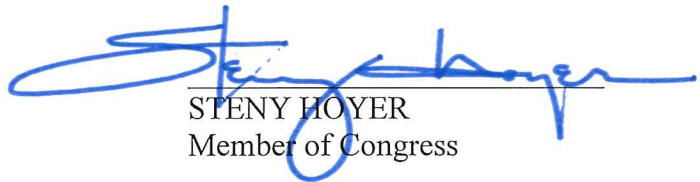
The Trump Administration must end these irrational and draconian cuts to the pay and benefits of federal employees and retirees, just as it must stop attacking the rights of employees to collectively bargain, resolve workplace disputes, and challenge unfair treatment. The men and women that make up our federal workforce are highly skilled and dedicated public servants who love this country. We cannot continue to demoralize them and denigrate their service while expecting national progress.

Please reject the President's proposal and stand with our federal workers by supporting the modest 1.9 percent pay adjustment passed in bipartisan fashion in the Senate.

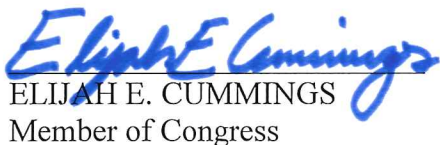
Sincerely,



JAMIE RASKIN  
Member of Congress



STENY HOYER  
Member of Congress



ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS  
Member of Congress



GERALD E. CONNOLLY  
Member of Congress



ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON  
Member of Congress



ANTHONY BROWN  
Member of Congress



JOHN P. SARBANES  
Member of Congress



DONALD S. BEYER, JR.  
Member of Congress



JOHN K. DELANEY  
Member of Congress



MARK DESAULNIER  
Member of Congress



DEBBIE DINGELL  
Member of Congress



ALAN LOWENTHAL  
Member of Congress



TOM O'HALLERAN  
Member of Congress



ERIC SWALWELL  
Member of Congress



JOHN YARMUTH  
Member of Congress



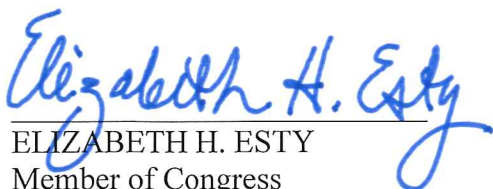
DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.  
Member of Congress



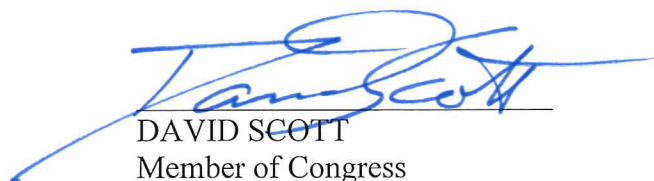
SALUD O. CARBAJAL  
Member of Congress



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM  
Member of Congress



ELIZABETH H. ESTY  
Member of Congress



DAVID SCOTT  
Member of Congress





THOMAS R. SUOZZI  
Member of Congress



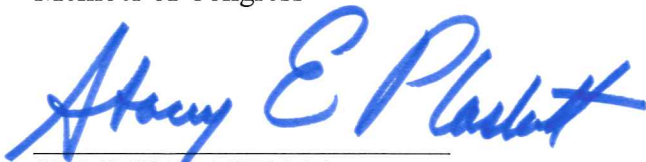
FRANK PALLONE, JR  
Member of Congress



ANNA G. ESHOO  
Member of Congress



A. DONALD MCEACHIN  
Member of Congress



STACEY PLASKETT  
Member of Congress



COLLEEN HANABUSA  
Member of Congress



CHARLIE CRIST  
Member of Congress



FILEMON VELA  
Member of Congress



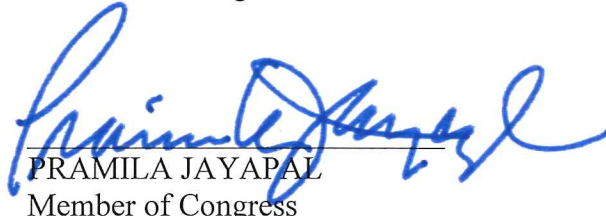
MIKE THOMPSON  
Member of Congress



MIKE DOYLE  
Member of Congress



RUBEN J. KIHUEN  
Member of Congress



PRAMILA JAYAPAL  
Member of Congress



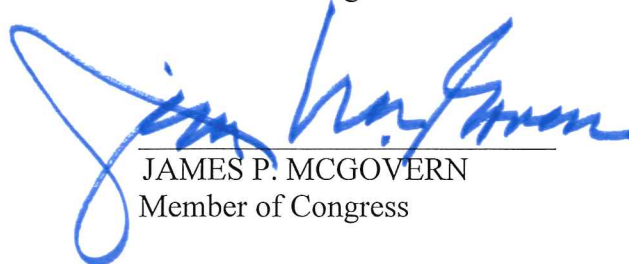
CEDRIC L. RICHMOND  
Member of Congress



DENNY HECK  
Member of Congress




JOSEPH P. KENNEDY, III  
Member of Congress

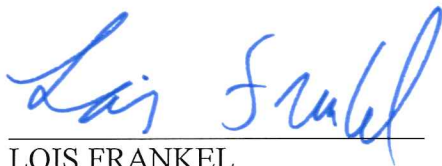



JAMES P. MCGOVERN  
Member of Congress

  
SUZANNE BONAMICI  
Member of Congress


  
CHERI BUSTOS  
Member of Congress

  
MATT CARTWRIGHT  
Member of Congress


  
LOIS FRANKEL  
Member of Congress

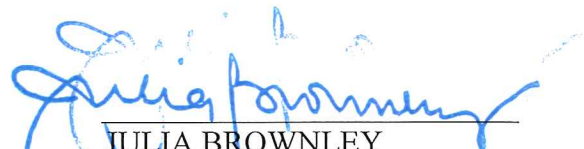
  
DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ  
Member of Congress

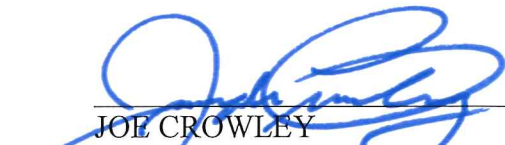
  
LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER  
Member of Congress

  
BRENDAN F. BOYLE  
Member of Congress

  
BRENDA L. LAWRENCE  
Member of Congress

  
RO KHANNA  
Member of Congress


  
JULIA BROWNLEY  
Member of Congress

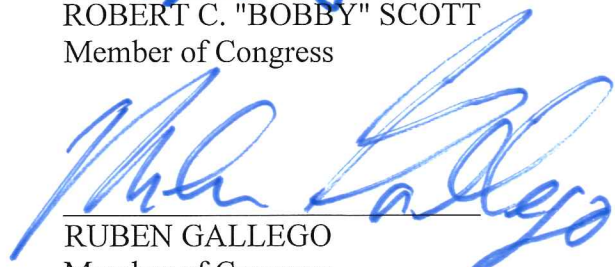
  
JOE CROWLEY  
Member of Congress

  
EARL BLUMENAUER  
Member of Congress

  
SCOTT H. PETERS  
Member of Congress

  
TIM RYAN  
Member of Congress

  
ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT  
Member of Congress

  
RUBEN GALLEGO  
Member of Congress



BILL FOSTER  
Member of Congress



JIMMY GOMEZ  
Member of Congress



SANDER M. LEVIN  
Member of Congress



STEPHANIE MURPHY  
Member of Congress



ROBIN L. KELLY  
Member of Congress



GRACE MENG  
Member of Congress



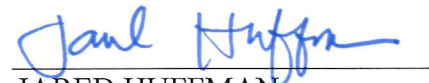
RAUL RUIZ M.D.  
Member of Congress



NANETTE BARRAGÁN  
Member of Congress



AL LAWSON  
Member of Congress



JARED HUFFMAN  
Member of Congress



ED PERLMUTTER  
Member of Congress



KATHERINE CLARK  
Member of Congress



MARK POCAN  
Member of Congress



DARREN SOTO  
Member of Congress



BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER  
Member of Congress



RON KIND  
Member of Congress





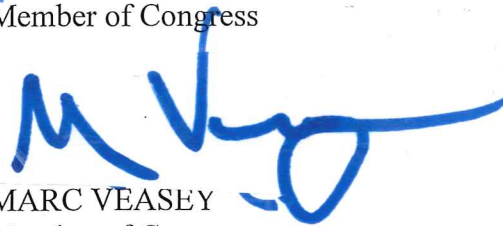
MARK TAKANO  
Member of Congress



KATHLEEN M. RICE  
Member of Congress



RAÚL M. GRIJALVA  
Member of Congress



MARC VEASEY  
Member of Congress



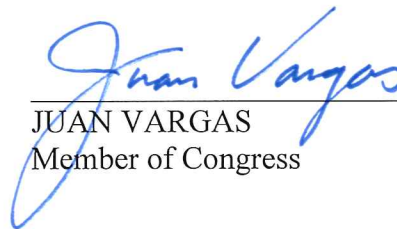
DEREK KILMER  
Member of Congress



DONALD NORCROSS  
Member of Congress



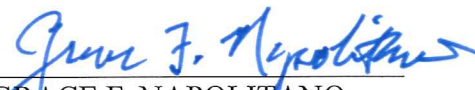
BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN  
Member of Congress



JUAN VARGAS  
Member of Congress



HAKEEM JEFFRIES  
Member of Congress



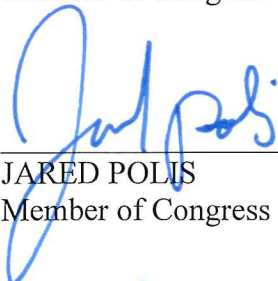
GRACE F. NAPOLITANO  
Member of Congress



ADRIANO ESPAILLAT  
Member of Congress



NORMA J. TORRES  
Member of Congress



JARED POLIS  
Member of Congress



RICK LARSEN  
Member of Congress



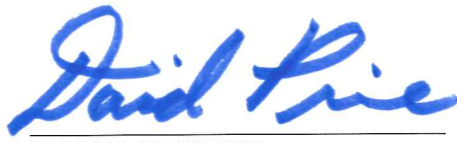
ROBERT A. BRADY  
Member of Congress

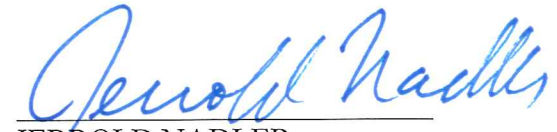


YVETTE D. CLARKE  
Member of Congress

  
JAMES R. LANGEVIN  
Member of Congress

  
LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD  
Member of Congress

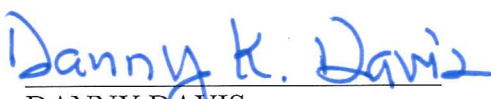
  
DAVID E. PRICE  
Member of Congress

  
JERROLD NADLER  
Member of Congress

  
DIANA DEGETTE  
Member of Congress

  
PETER A. DEFAZIO  
Member of Congress


  
ANDRE CARSON  
Member of Congress

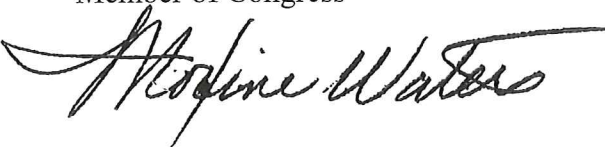
  
DANNY DAVIS  
Member of Congress

  
CHELLIE PINGREE  
Member of Congress

  
BRAD SHERMAN  
Member of Congress


  
MARCY KAPTUR  
Member of Congress

  
SHEILA JACKSON LEE  
Member of Congress

  
MAXINE WATERS  
Member of Congress

  
BEN RAY LUJAN  
Member of Congress

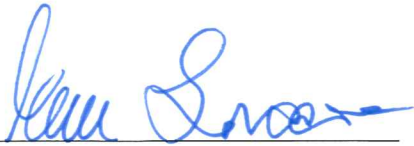
  
GREGORY W. MEEKS  
Member of Congress

  
HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.  
Member of Congress





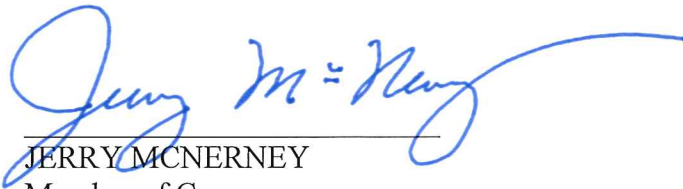
KAREN BASS  
Member of Congress



GWEN MOORE  
Member of Congress



KEITH ELLISON  
Member of Congress



JERRY MCNERNEY  
Member of Congress



STEPHEN F. LYNCH  
Member of Congress



LLOYD DOGGETT  
Member of Congress



PETER J. VISCLOSKY  
Member of Congress



CONOR LAMB  
Member of Congress



DAVID CICILLINE  
Member of Congress



BETTY MCCOLLUM  
Member of Congress



ADAM SMITH  
Member of Congress



BARBARA LEE  
Member of Congress



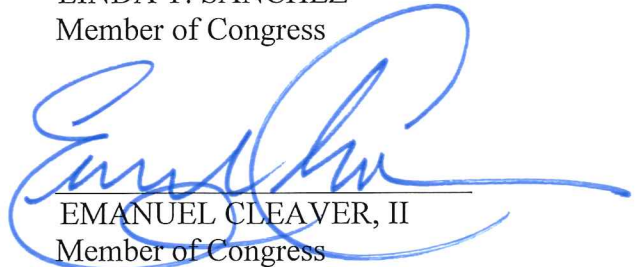
PETER WELCH  
Member of Congress




CAROLYN B. MALONEY  
Member of Congress

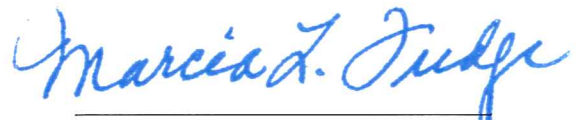



LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ  
Member of Congress



EMANUEL CLEAVER, II  
Member of Congress

  
ALBIO SIRES  
Member of Congress

  
MARCIA L. FUDGE  
Member of Congress

  
DANIEL W. LIPINSKI  
Member of Congress

  
JOE COURTNEY  
Member of Congress


  
ALCEE L. HASTINGS  
Member of Congress

  
JOSÉ E. SERRANO  
Member of Congress


  
NITA M. LOWEY  
Member of Congress


  
RICHARD M. NOLAN  
Member of Congress

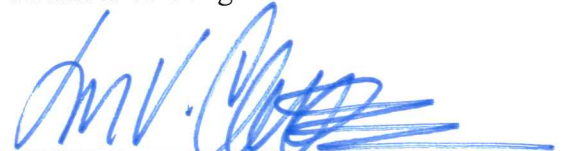
  
JAN SCHAKOWSKY  
Member of Congress

  
BILL PASCRELL, JR.  
Member of Congress

  
ADAM B. SCHIFF  
Member of Congress

  
STEVE COHEN  
Member of Congress

  
SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.  
Member of Congress

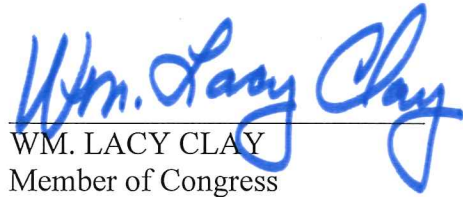
  
LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ  
Member of Congress

  
GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLÁN  
Member of Congress

  
ROSA DELAURO  
Member of Congress

  
C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER  
Member of Congress

  
JUDY CHU  
Member of Congress

  
WM. LACY CLAY  
Member of Congress

  
JOHN GARAMENDI  
Member of Congress

  
MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO  
Member of Congress

  
SUZAN DELBENE  
Member of Congress

  
FREDERICA S. WILSON  
Member of Congress

  
THEODORE E. DEUTCH  
Member of Congress

  
MIKE QUIGLEY  
Member of Congress

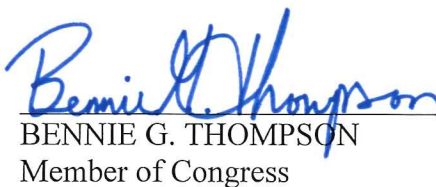
  
BRIAN HIGGINS  
Member of Congress

  
ELIOT L. ENGEL  
Member of Congress

  
PAUL D. TONKO  
Member of Congress

  
DINA TITUS  
Member of Congress

  
JACKIE SPEIER  
Member of Congress

  
BENNIE G. THOMPSON  
Member of Congress

  
GENE GREEN  
Member of Congress



VAL BUTLER DEMINGS  
Member of Congress

ZOE LOFGREN  
Member of Congress

SETH MOULTON  
Member of Congress

BENNIE G. THOMPSON  
Member of Congress

DWIGHT EVANS  
Member of Congress

TIM WALZ  
Member of Congress

ALMA S. ADAMS, PH.D.  
Member of Congress

DAVE LOEBACK  
Member of Congress

TULSI GABBARD  
Member of Congress

DANIEL T. KILDEE  
Member of Congress

JIMMY PANETTA  
Member of Congress