

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0301

December 3, 2015

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Culberson
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice and Science
House Appropriations Committee
H-309, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Honda
Acting Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice and Science
House Appropriations Committee
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Rogers and Culberson and Ranking Members Lowey and Honda:

As you work towards finalizing the FY 2016 appropriations process, we urge you to appropriate adequate resources to the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) at a level appropriate to effectively execute the program's purpose.

As you know, SCAAP is a grant program that reimburses states and local governments for the cost of incarcerating undocumented immigrants convicted of crimes. By law, the federal government is ultimately responsible for immigration enforcement, including the incarceration of undocumented criminal offenders. When this is not possible, the law requires the federal government to compensate state and local governments for their incarceration costs.

Although appropriations levels for SCAAP have decreased dramatically in recent years, the costs incurred by states to fulfill what is essentially a federal function have increased. We cannot afford to reduce resources for this vital program, which already falls far short of what states and local governments actually spend to incarcerate undocumented criminal offenders. Reducing federal SCAAP reimbursements forces state and local law enforcement agencies to absorb a greater portion of the costs of a federal responsibility.

We recognize the challenges of the current fiscal environment and thank you for your effort and dutiful consideration of FY 2016 appropriations priorities. We respectfully ask that that the

benefits of SCAAP to our local jurisdictions be carefully considered and that the program be appropriated at a level consistent with its federally mandated responsibility.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



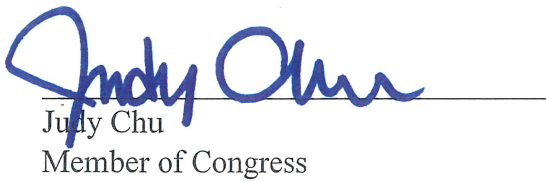
Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



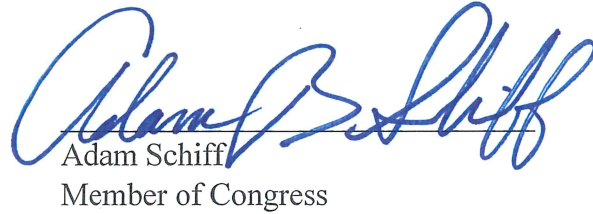
Gerald Connolly
Member of Congress



Trent Franks
Member of Congress



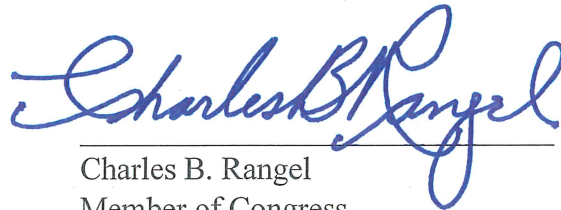
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



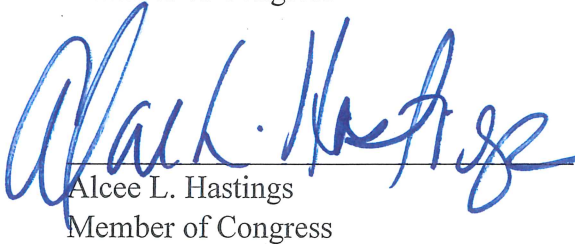
Adam Schiff
Member of Congress



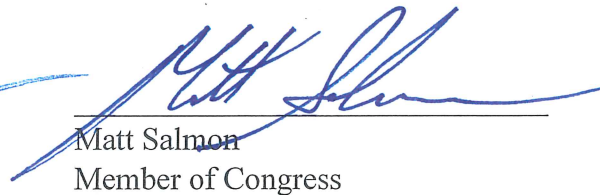
Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



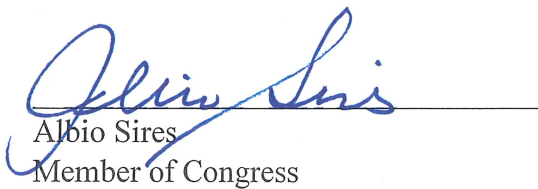
Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress



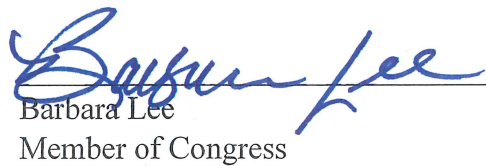
Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



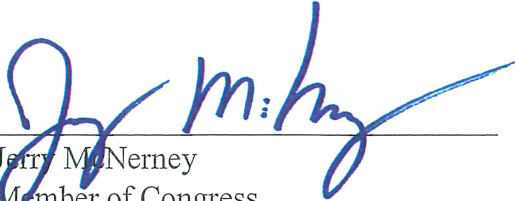
Matt Salmon
Member of Congress

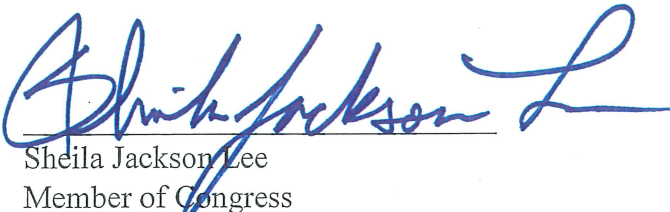


Albio Sires
Member of Congress

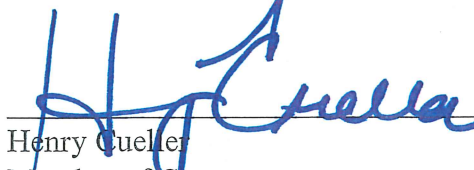


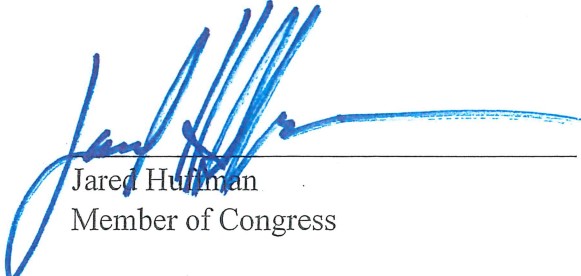
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress


Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress

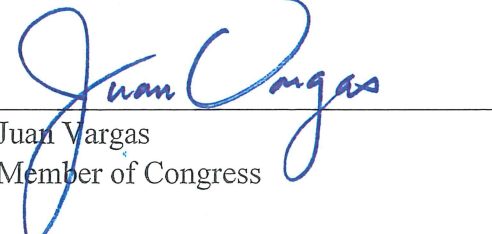

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress


Lois Capps
Member of Congress


Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress

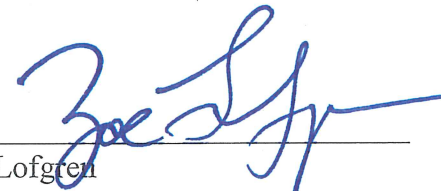

Juan Vargas
Member of Congress

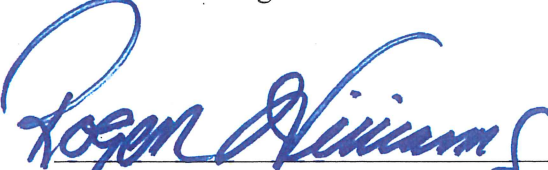

Paul Grijalva
Member of Congress


Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress

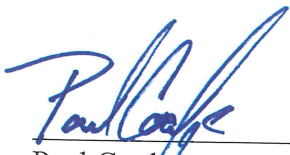

Mark Takano
Member of Congress


Kyrsten Sinema
Member of Congress

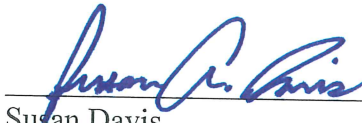

Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress


Roger Williams
Member of Congress


Mo Brooks
Member of Congress



Paul Cook
Member of Congress



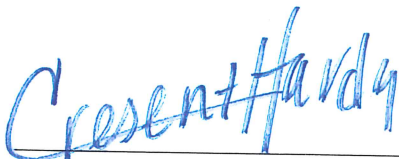
Susan Davis
Member of Congress



Martha McSally
Member of Congress



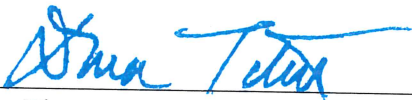
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Crescent Hardy
Member of Congress



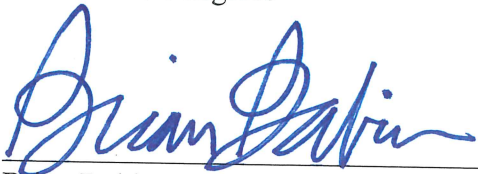
David Schweikert
Member of Congress



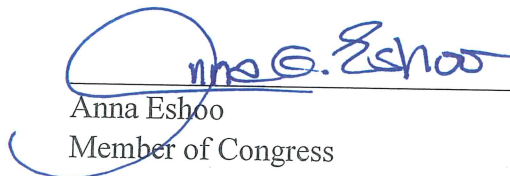
Dina Titus
Member of Congress



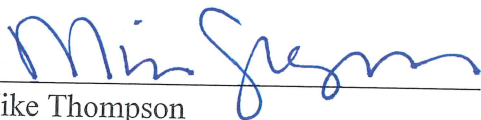
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Anna Eshoo
Member of Congress



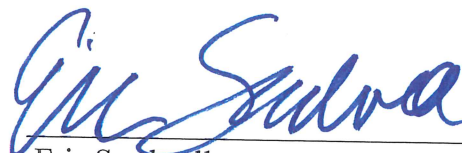
Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Ann Kirkpatrick
Member of Congress



Joseph J. Heck, D.O.
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



Bradley Byrne
Member of Congress



Lou Barletta
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress