

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0301

March 22, 2016

The Honorable John Culberson
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
H-310, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Honda
Acting Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Culberson and Ranking Member Honda:

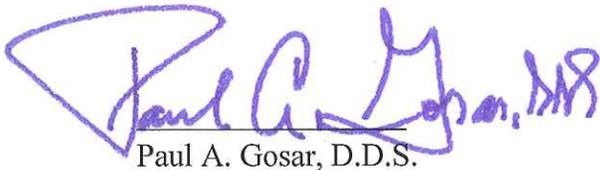
As you begin work on the fiscal year (FY) 2017 Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations bill, we urge you to appropriate resources to the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) at a level that will allow local law enforcement to execute the program's intended purpose.

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 local law enforcement for incarcerating undocumented criminal offenders have increased significantly. We must do a better job at providing the necessary resources for this vital program, which already falls far short of what states and local governments actually spend to incarcerate undocumented immigrants convicted of crimes.

We recognize the challenges of the current fiscal environment and thank you for your effort and dutiful consideration of FY 2017 appropriations priorities. We respectfully ask 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



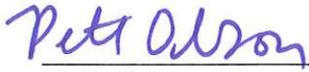
Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Lois Capps
Member of Congress



Steve King
Member of Congress



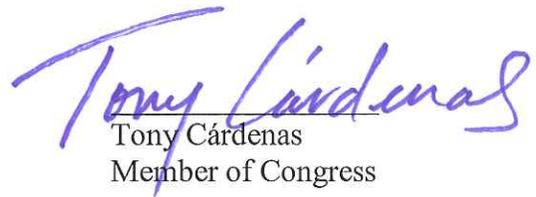
Pete Olson
Member of Congress



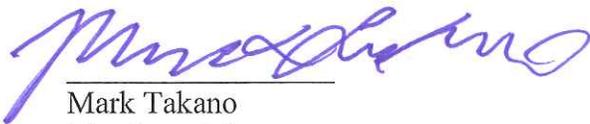
Grace Napolitano
Member of Congress



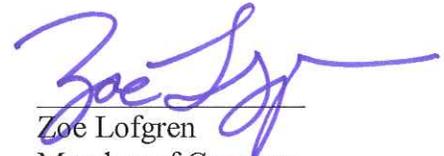
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



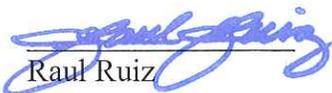
Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress



Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz
Member of Congress



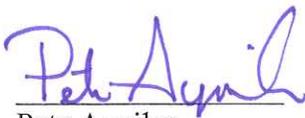
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



Mo Brooks
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Xavier Becerra
Member of Congress



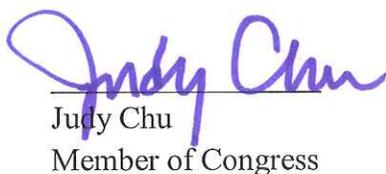
Pete Aguilar
Member of Congress

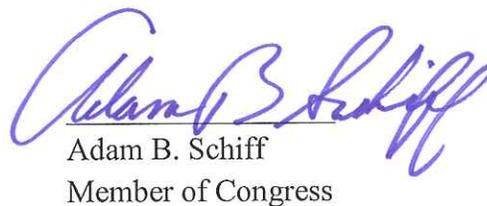


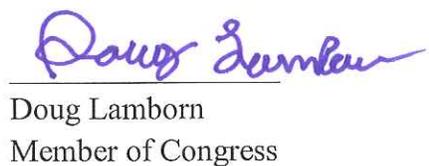
Paul Cook
Member of Congress

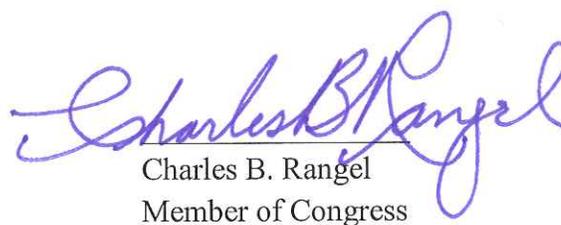

Trent Franks
Member of Congress


John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress

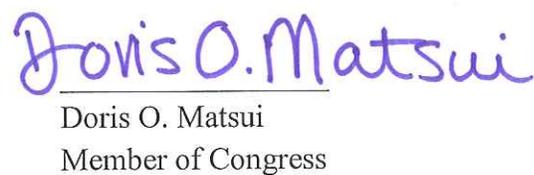

Judy Chu
Member of Congress

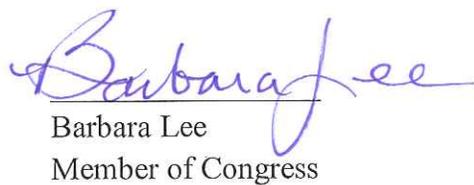

Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress

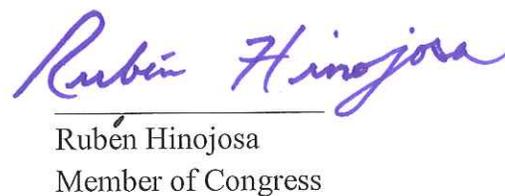

Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress


Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress

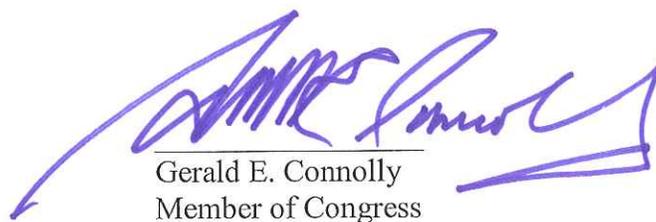

Albio Sires
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Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress


Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

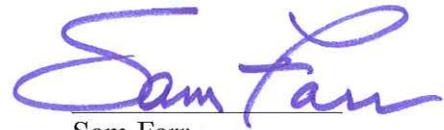

Rubén Hinojosa
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Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress


Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



Diane Black
Member of Congress



Sam Farr
Member of Congress



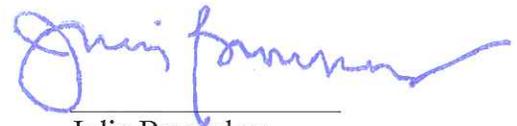
Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



Tim Huelskamp
Member of Congress



Martha McSally
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



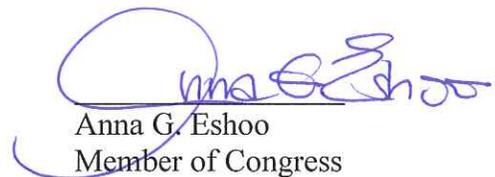
Filemon Vela
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasy
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
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Barbara Comstock
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Ann Kirkpatrick
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Joe Heck, D.O.
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Eric Swalwell
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Alan Lowenthal
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Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress



Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress