

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

May 31, 2013

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC

Dear President Obama,

We are writing to request your assistance with finding a solution for the small number of Russian orphans who have already met and bonded with their American families, yet were not able to have their adoptions completed due to the Russian adoption ban. We understand that you will be meeting with President Putin in June during the G8 Summit. We ask that you prioritize this issue and seek commitment from President Putin to finding a humanitarian solution.

Politics between the United States and Russia have become personal to several hundred Russian orphans and the families in the United States hoping to adopt them. These are children without parents, families, or homes. Many are in need of urgent medical care; all are in need of a future filled with promise. These children have no voice. These children have already been promised homes in America, and they have bonded with these American parents. The Government of Russia's unwillingness to allow their cases to be completed adds yet another trauma to their young lives.

We have met many of these families and spoken with them frequently. They remain completely dedicated to these children, and they are trying everything in their power to help them. Approximately 230 of these families had traveled to Russia before the adoption ban to spend time with the children with whom they were matched. These devoted families already think of the children they were matched with as their sons and daughters.

Mr. President, we must find a humanitarian solution for these children and these families. We were cautiously optimistic when the Government of Russia

sent a delegation to the United States a few weeks ago, but the outcome of that visit was disappointing.

We ask you to raise this issue with President Putin directly in the hopes that two world leaders can step back for a moment and find a way out of the political morass for a few hundred wounded children. Based on the briefings we have received from the Department of State and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, we know that there are options for bringing these children home, despite the ban. The issue, then, becomes a question of convincing the Russians to put the children's needs first. We thank you in advance for your efforts on behalf of this group of children and families.

Sincerely,



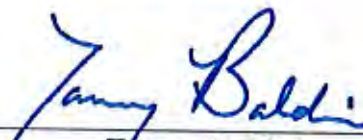
Mary L. Landrieu
U.S. Senator



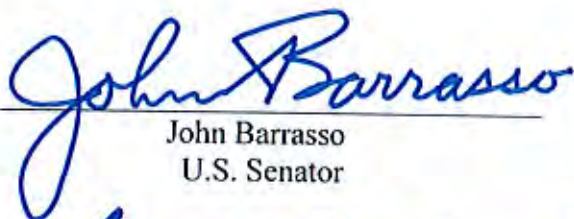
Roy Blunt
U.S. Senator



Kelly A. Ayotte
U.S. Senator



Tammy Baldwin
U.S. Senator




John Barrasso
U.S. Senator




Mark Begich
U.S. Senator



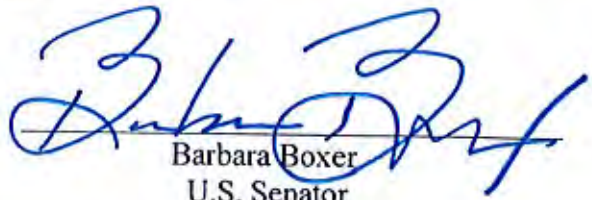
Michael F. Bennet
U.S. Senator



Richard Blumenthal
U.S. Senator



John Boozman
U.S. Senator



Barbara Boxer
U.S. Senator



Sherrod Brown
U.S. Senator



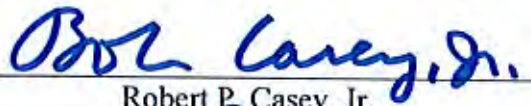
Richard Burr
U.S. Senator



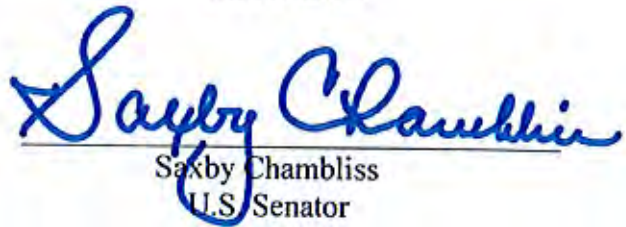
Maria Cantwell
U.S. Senator



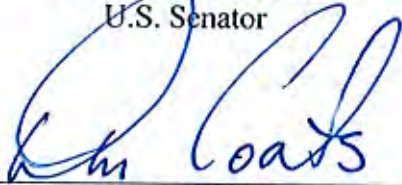
Benjamin L. Cardin
U.S. Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
U.S. Senator



Saxby Chambliss
U.S. Senator



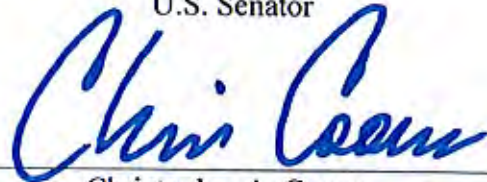
Daniel Coats
U.S. Senator



Thad Cochran
U.S. Senator



Susan M. Collins
U.S. Senator



Christopher A. Coons
U.S. Senator



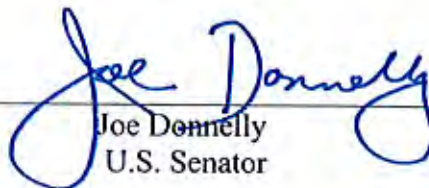
Bob Corker
U.S. Senator



John Cornyn
U.S. Senator



Ted Cruz
U.S. Senator



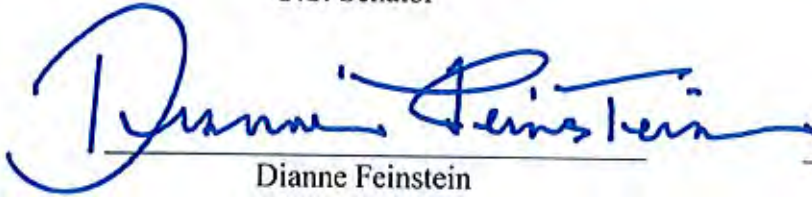
Joe Donnelly
U.S. Senator



Richard J. Durbin
U.S. Senator



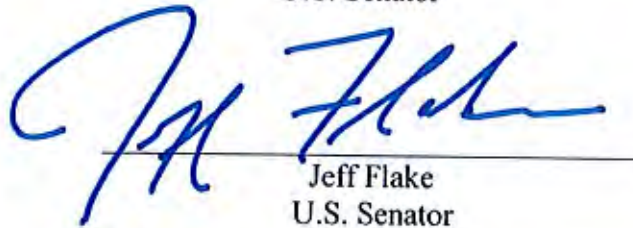
Michael B. Enzi
U.S. Senator



Dianne Feinstein
U.S. Senator



Deb Fischer
U.S. Senator



Jeff Flake
U.S. Senator



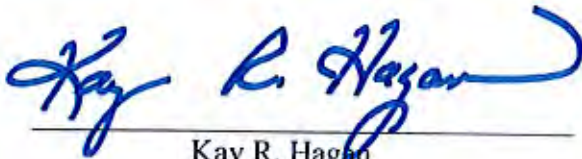
Al Franken
U.S. Senator



Kirsten E. Gillibrand
U.S. Senator



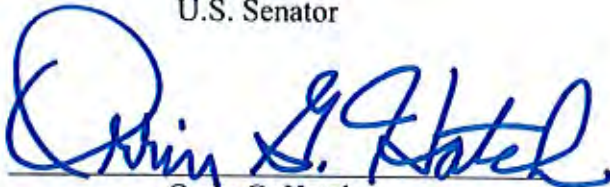
Charles E. Grassley
U.S. Senator



Kay R. Hagan
U.S. Senator



Tom Harkin
U.S. Senator



Orrin G. Hatch
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Martin Heinrich
U.S. Senator



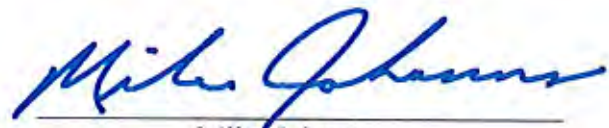
Heidi Heitkamp
U.S. Senator



James M. Inhofe
U.S. Senator



Johnny Isakson
U.S. Senator



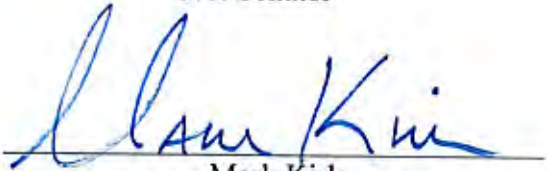
Mike Johanns
U.S. Senator



Tim Kaine
U.S. Senator




Angus S. King, Jr.
U.S. Senator



Mark Kirk
U.S. Senator



Amy Klobuchar
U.S. Senator



Frank R. Lautenberg
U.S. Senator



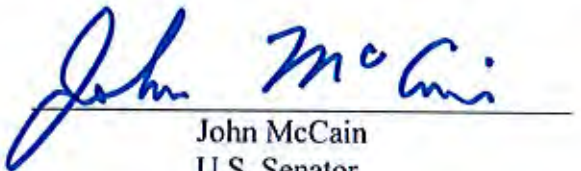
Patrick Leahy
U.S. Senator



Mike Lee
U.S. Senator



Carl Levin
U.S. Senator



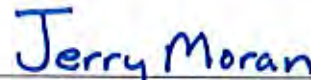
John McCain
U.S. Senator



Claire McCaskill
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Robert Menendez
U.S. Senator



Jerry Moran
U.S. Senator



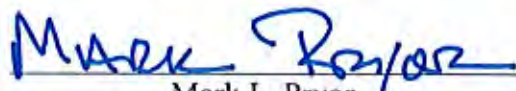
Bill Nelson
U.S. Senator



Rand Paul
U.S. Senator



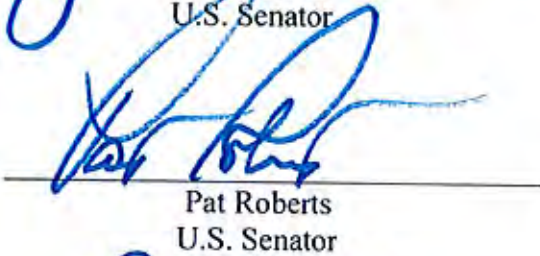
Rob Portman
U.S. Senator



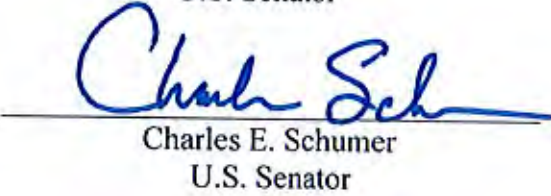
Mark L. Pryor
U.S. Senator



Jack Reed
U.S. Senator



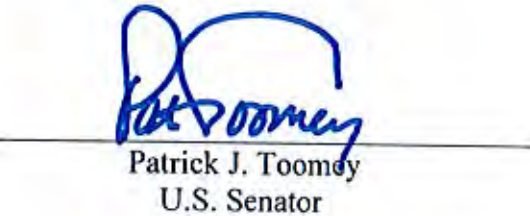
Pat Roberts
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Charles E. Schumer
U.S. Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
U.S. Senator



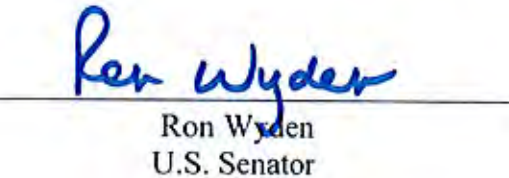
Patrick J. Toomey
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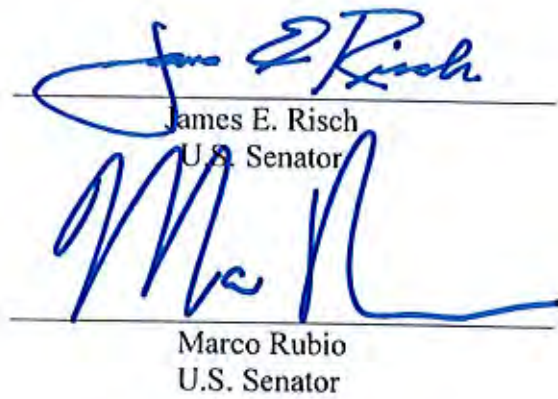
Mark R. Warner
U.S. Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse
U.S. Senator



Ron Wyden
U.S. Senator



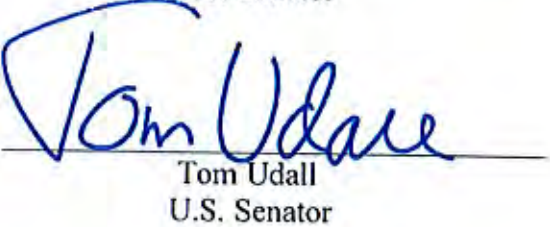
James E. Risch
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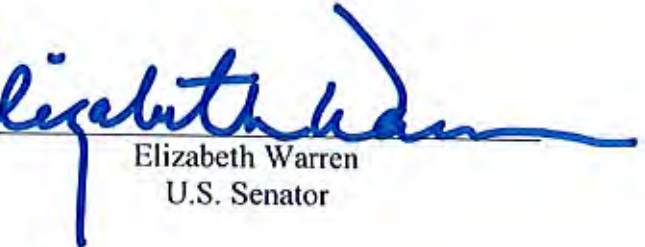
Marco Rubio
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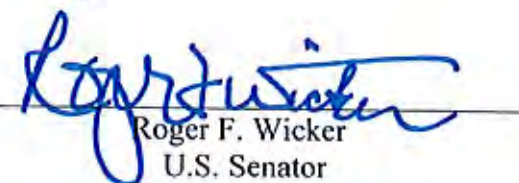
Jeff Sessions
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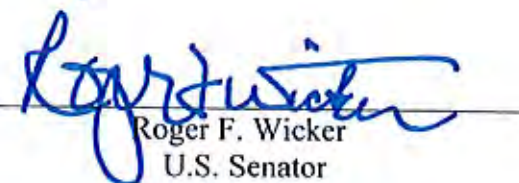
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U.S. Senator



Tom Udall
U.S. Senator



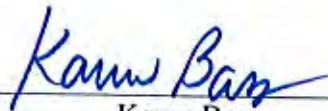
Elizabeth Warren
U.S. Senator



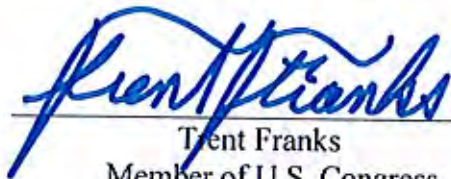
Roger F. Wicker
U.S. Senator



Michele Bachmann
Member of U.S. Congress



Karen Bass
Member of U.S. Congress



Trent Franks
Member of U.S. Congress



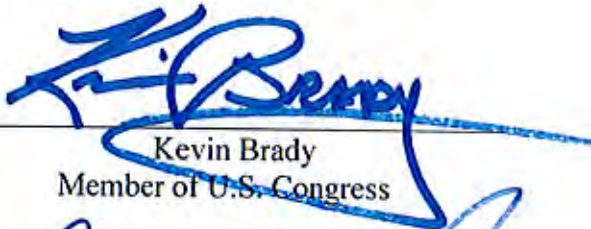
Steve Israel
Member of U.S. Congress



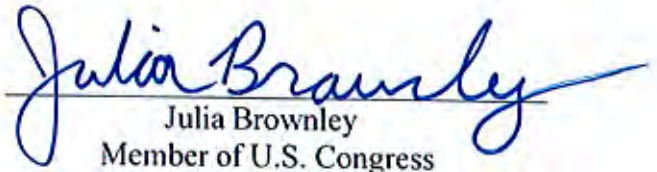
Spencer Bachus
Member of U.S. Congress



Timothy H. Bishop
Member of U.S. Congress



Kevin Brady
Member of U.S. Congress



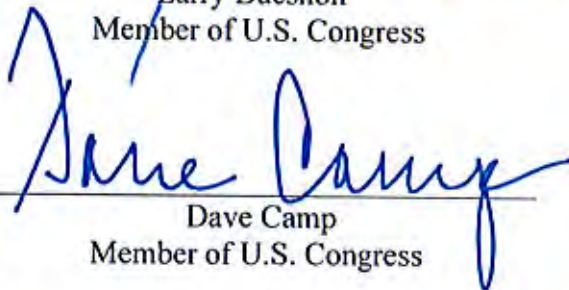
Julia Brownley
Member of U.S. Congress



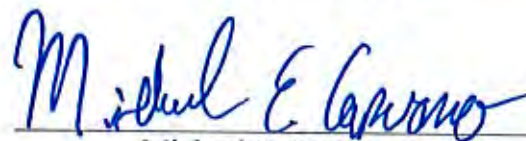
Larry Bucshon
Member of U.S. Congress



Ken Calvert
Member of U.S. Congress



Dave Camp
Member of U.S. Congress



Michael E. Capuano
Member of U.S. Congress



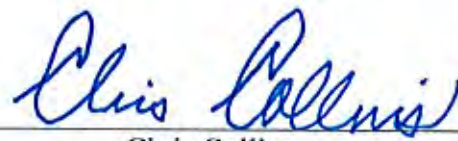
Bill Cassidy
Member of U.S. Congress



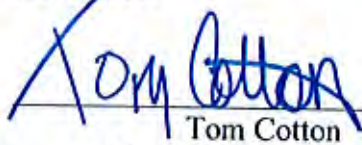
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of U.S. Congress



William Lacy Clay
Member of U.S. Congress




Chris Collins
Member of U.S. Congress



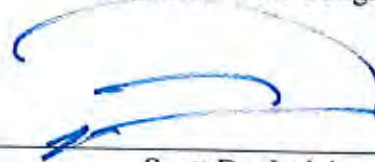
Tom Cotton
Member of U.S. Congress



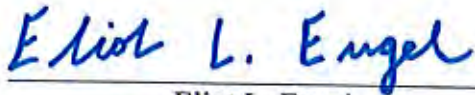
Rick Crawford
Member of U.S. Congress



Joseph Crowley
Member of U.S. Congress



Scott DesJarlais
Member of U.S. Congress



Eliot L. Engel
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Chris Gibson
Member of U.S. Congress



Tim Griffin
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Michael G. Grimm
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Brett Guthrie
Member of U.S. Congress



Richard L. Hanna
Member of U.S. Congress



Gregg Harper
Member of U.S. Congress



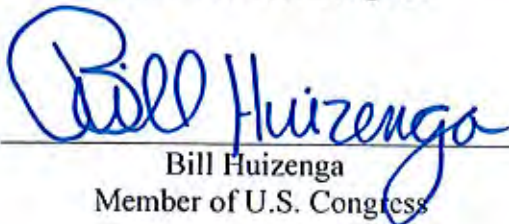
Vicky Hartzler
Member of U.S. Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of U.S. Congress



Tim Huelskamp
Member of U.S. Congress




Bill Huizenga
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Hakeem S. Jeffries
Member of U.S. Congress



Lynn Jenkins
Member of U.S. Congress



Peter T. King
Member of U.S. Congress


Adam Kinzinger
Member of U.S. Congress

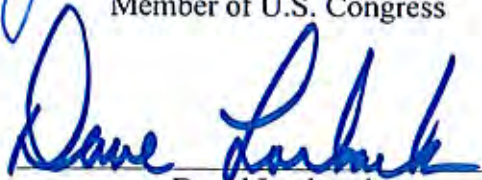

Doug LaMalfa
Member of U.S. Congress


Leonard Lance
Member of U.S. Congress



James R. Langevin
Member of U.S. Congress

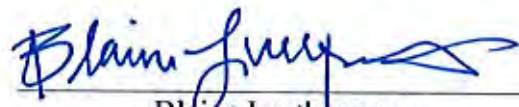

John Lewis
Member of U.S. Congress


Daniel Lipinski
Member of U.S. Congress


David Loebsack
Member of U.S. Congress



Billy Long
Member of U.S. Congress


Nita M. Lowey
Member of U.S. Congress


Blaine Luetkemeyer
Member of U.S. Congress


Michelle Lujan Grisham
Member of U.S. Congress

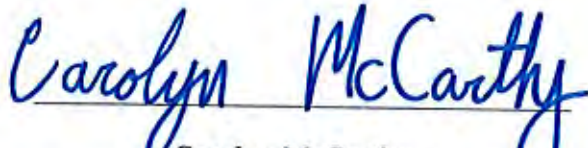

Cynthia M. Lummis
Member of U.S. Congress

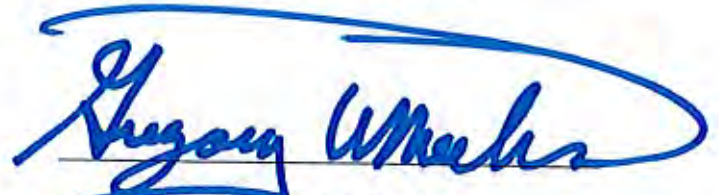

Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of U.S. Congress


Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of U.S. Congress


Tom Marino
Member of U.S. Congress

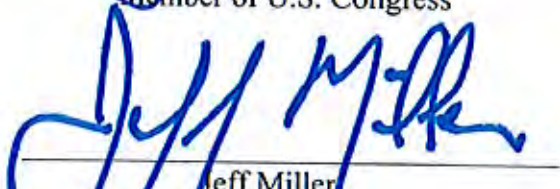

Edward J. Markey
Member of U.S. Congress


Carolyn McCarthy
Member of U.S. Congress



Gregory W. Meeks
Member of U.S. Congress



Grace Meng
Member of U.S. Congress


Luke Messer
Member of U.S. Congress

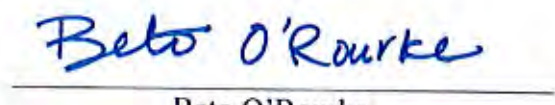

Jeff Miller
Member of U.S. Congress


James P. Moran
Member of U.S. Congress


Markwayne Mullin
Member of U.S. Congress

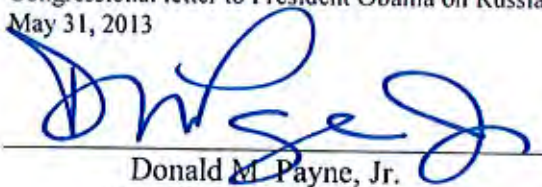

Jerrold Nadler
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Alan Nunnelee
Member of U.S. Congress


Beto O'Rourke
Member of U.S. Congress


Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of U.S. Congress


Erik Paulsen
Member of U.S. Congress



Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of U.S. Congress



Ted Poe
Member of U.S. Congress



Mike Pompeo
Member of U.S. Congress



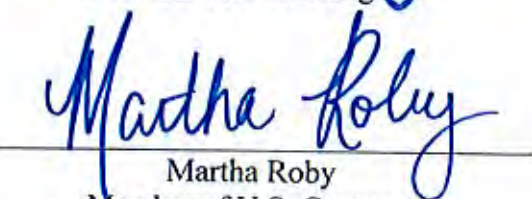
Tom Price
Member of U.S. Congress



Charles B. Rangel
Member of U.S. Congress



Reid J. Ribble
Member of U.S. Congress



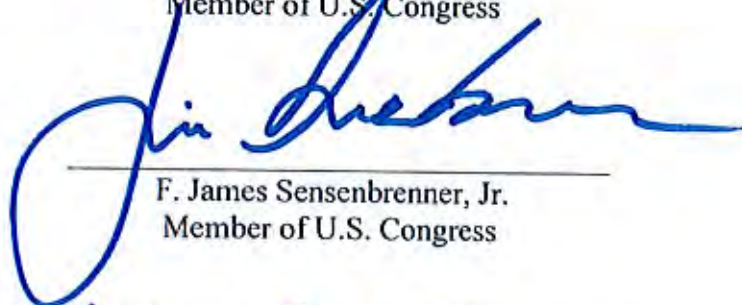
Martha Roby
Member of U.S. Congress



Todd Rokita
Member of U.S. Congress



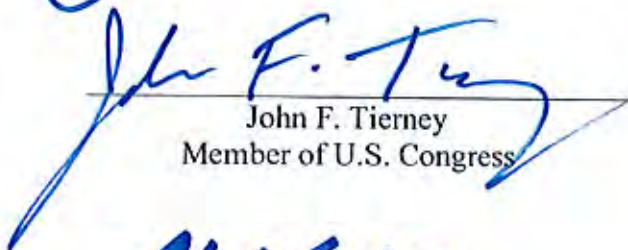
Peter Roskam
Member of U.S. Congress



F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Member of U.S. Congress



Christopher H. Smith
Member of U.S. Congress



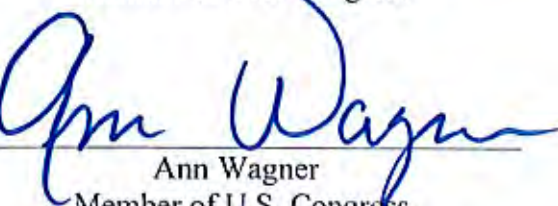
John F. Tierney
Member of U.S. Congress



Paul Tonko
Member of U.S. Congress



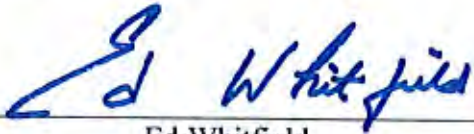
Chris Van Hollen
Member of U.S. Congress



Ann Wagner
Member of U.S. Congress



Jackie Walorski
Member of U.S. Congress



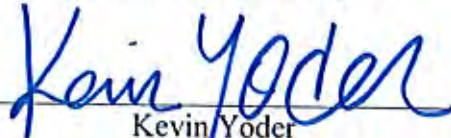
Ed Whitfield
Member of U.S. Congress



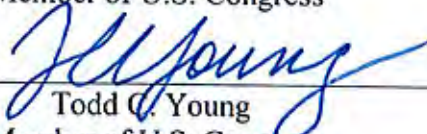
Robert J. Wittman
Member of U.S. Congress



Frank R. Wolf
Member of U.S. Congress



Kevin Yoder
Member of U.S. Congress



Todd C. Young
Member of U.S. Congress