

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

March 31, 2015

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

Thank you for your leadership in responding to the serious challenge of climate change. We applaud and support your Climate Action Plan, the joint announcement with China establishing ambitious carbon pollution reduction targets, and the national commitment to the Green Climate Fund. These actions are critical to protect Americans from the most dangerous effects of climate change.

Americans are already shouldering the costs of climate change, and these costs are getting worse. Climate change is driving more severe drought and wildfires in the West, larger and more frequent floods in the Midwest, and sea level rise and greater storm damage along our coasts. Vulnerable populations, like children with asthma and the elderly, are suffering from higher levels of smog in our cities and longer, more severe heat waves. Farmers and ranchers are struggling with crop and livestock losses from drought. Increasingly acidic oceans are harming shellfish populations and threatening fisheries. Communities are struggling to pay for infrastructure damaged by fires, more extreme storms, and coastal erosion.

One of the three pillars of the Climate Action Plan is to lead international efforts to address global climate change. As a nation that has contributed more than a quarter of all global carbon pollution, it is our responsibility to lead. As a nation already feeling the effects and costs of climate change, it is also in our national interest to do so. In order to solve the problem of climate change, it is essential that the United States has allies in cutting carbon pollution. As we have seen time and time again, other countries will join us, if America leads the way.

As the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) prepare to meet at the end of the year, they have agreed that each nation will pledge to reduce its carbon pollution in an amount and manner to be determined by each nation and that puts the world on a strong trajectory to address climate change. Proactive engagement in these negotiations, backed up by domestic climate action, is the best way to protect our nation's interests and ensure every country does its fair share.

The strong target announced by the United States, along with reciprocal commitments from China and the European Union, sets the stage for a meaningful climate agreement this year. Because the U.S. and China are the largest two emitters of carbon pollution and together with the

E.U. are collectively responsible for more than half of the world's energy sector emissions, the recent commitments by our countries represent significant progress. This progress is strengthened by the recent U.S.-India commitment to work together to achieve a successful and ambitious global climate agreement this year. The United States' pledge of \$3 billion to the Green Climate Fund continues to demonstrate our history of partnering with the least developed countries to help them grow their economies in ways that take into account the impacts of climate change.

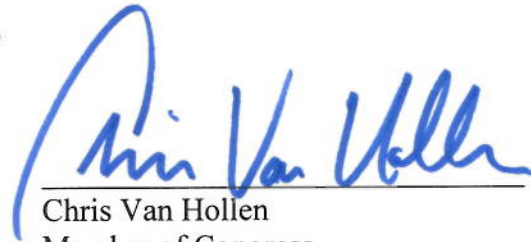
We stand ready to help you seize this opportunity to strengthen the global response to climate change. Your Administration has made significant progress in reducing U.S. emissions, including through improvements in vehicle fuel efficiency standards and other areas that are saving consumers and businesses money, reducing air pollution, creating jobs, and putting America back in control of our energy security. We applaud the Administration's continued use of its existing authority to cut carbon pollution, in particular EPA's standards to limit carbon pollution from power plants under the Clean Air Act, and your efforts under the UNFCCC.

Thank you again for your leadership in fighting devastating climate change to protect American families today and for generations to come.

Sincerely,



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



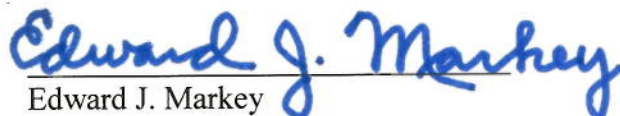
Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



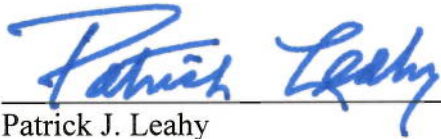
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



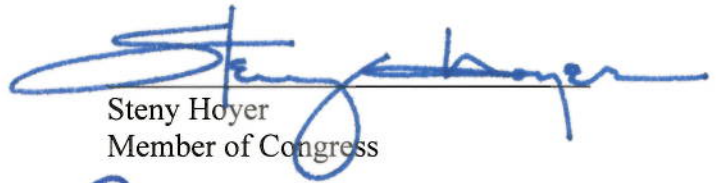
Harry Reid
United States Senator



Nancy Pelosi
Member of Congress



Patrick J. Leahy
United States Senator



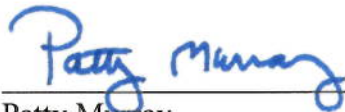
Steny Hoyer
Member of Congress



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Charles E. Schumer
United States Senator



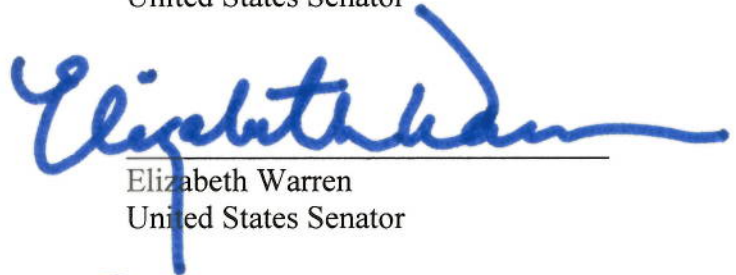
Patty Murray
United States Senator



Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator



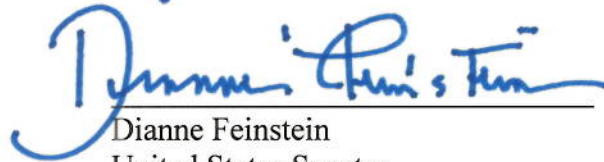
Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator



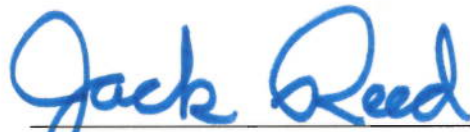
Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator




Barbara Boxer
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Jack Reed
United States Senator



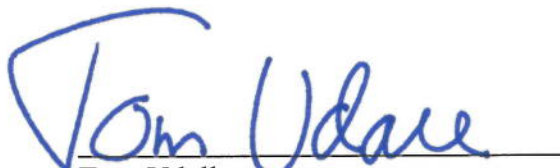
Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator




Maria Cantwell
United States Senator




Bernard Sanders
United States Senator


Tom Udall
United States Senator

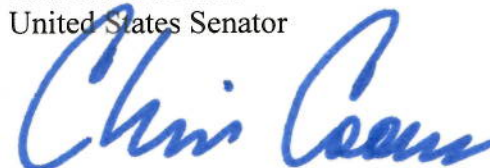

Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator


Jeffery A. Merkley
United States Senator


Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator

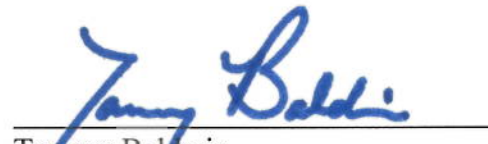

Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator

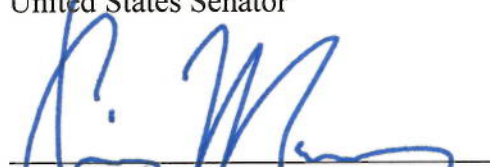

Al Franken
United States Senator


Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator

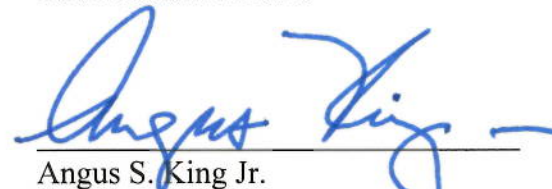

Brian Schatz
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Christopher Murphy
United States Senator

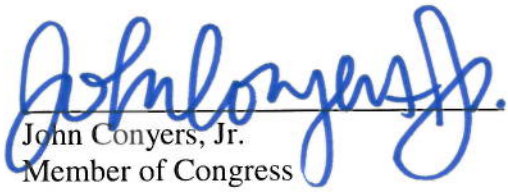

Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator


Martin Heinrich
United States Senator


Angus S. King Jr.
United States Senator

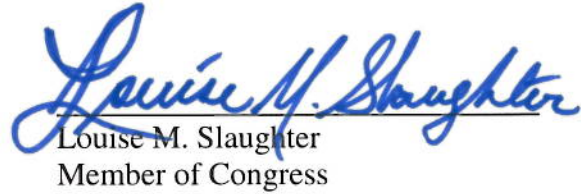

Cory A. Booker
United States Senator

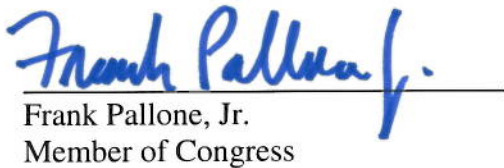

Gary C. Peters
United States Senator


John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress


Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress

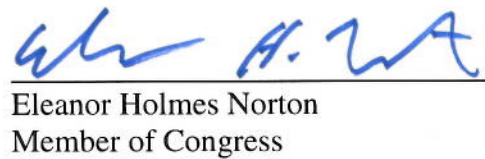

Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress

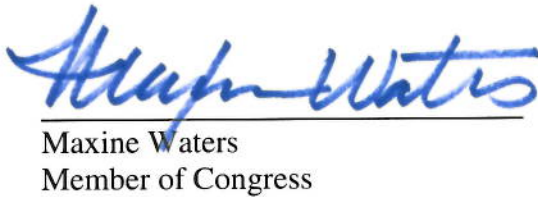

Louise M. Slaughter
Member of Congress

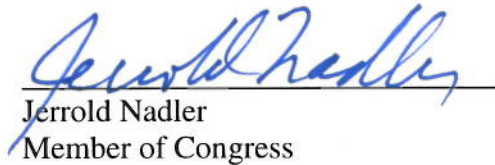

Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress

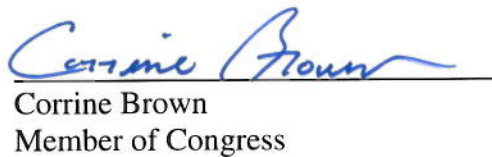

Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress


Jim McDermott
Member of Congress


Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

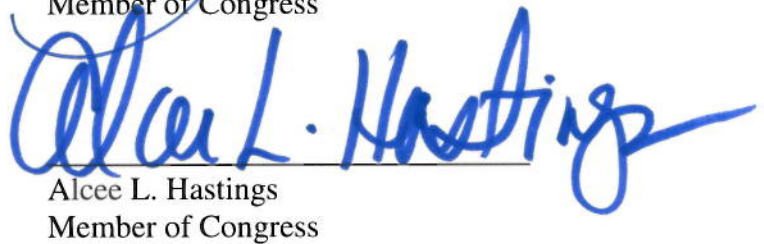

Maxine Waters
Member of Congress

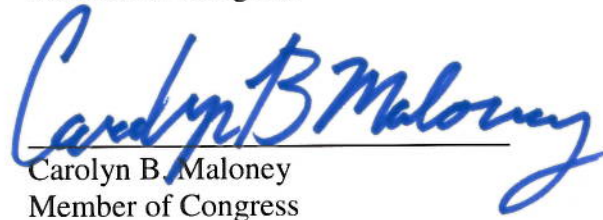

Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress


Corrine Brown
Member of Congress

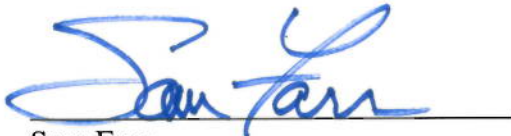

Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress


Luis V. Gutiérrez
Member of Congress


Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress


Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress


Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



Sam Farr
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



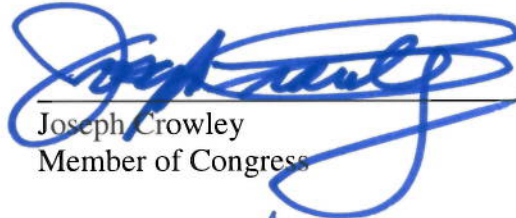
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



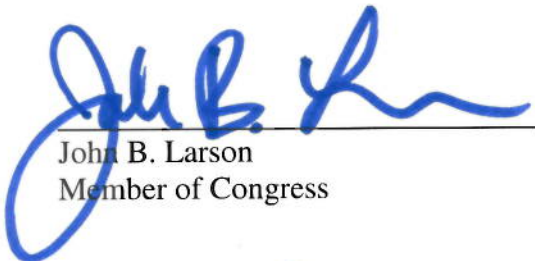
Lois Capps
Member of Congress



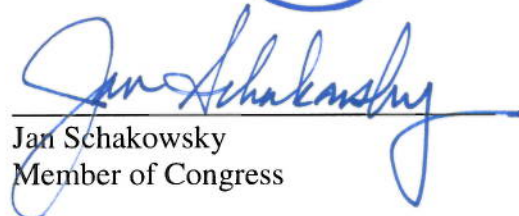
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress



Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress



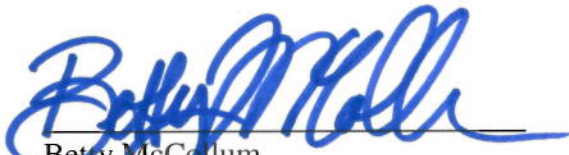
Steve Israel
Member of Congress



Jim Langevin
Member of Congress



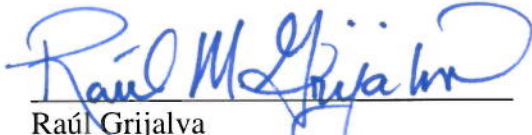
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress




Betty McCollum
Member of Congress




Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



Raúl Grijalva
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver
Member of Congress




Dan Lipinski
Member of Congress




Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison
Member of Congress




Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



John Yarmuth
Member of Congress



Jackie Speier
Member of Congress



Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



Jim Himes
Member of Congress



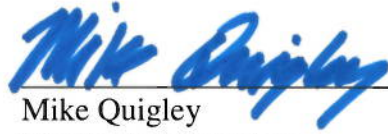
Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



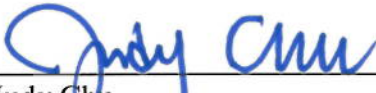
Jared Polis
Member of Congress



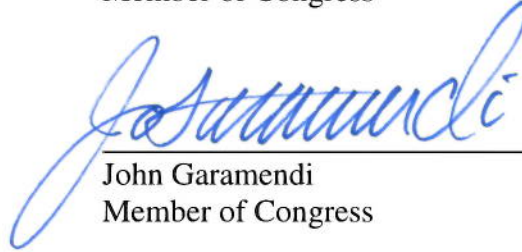
Paul Tonko
Member of Congress




Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



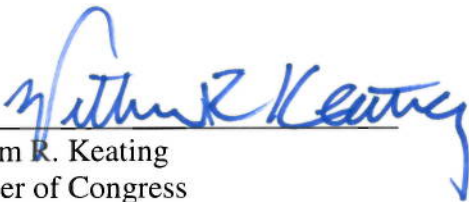
John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Ted Deutch
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress




Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



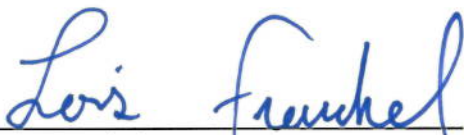
Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress



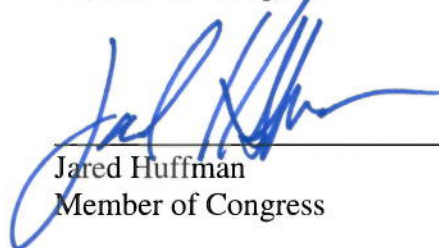
John K. Delaney
Member of Congress



Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



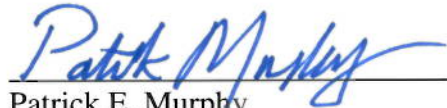
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



Patrick E. Murphy
Member of Congress



Scott Peters
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



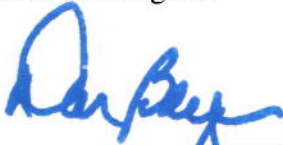
Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



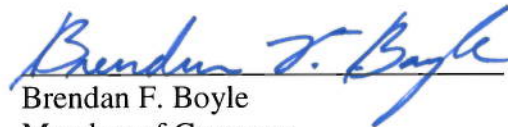
Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Katherine Clark
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer, Jr.
Member of Congress



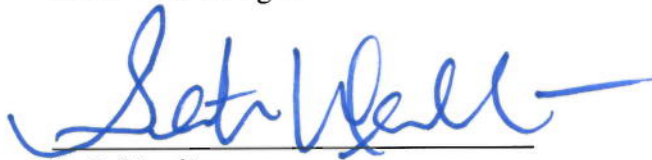
Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



Mark Takai
Member of Congress