

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 8, 2024

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Speaker Johnson, and Leader Jeffries:

We write today to express our serious concern regarding the impending lapse of funding for the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP). As you know, April was the last month in which the full monthly ACP benefit was available and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has now stated that ACP funding and benefits will cease at the end of this month without additional funding.<sup>1</sup> With this in mind, we urge you to include funding for this highly effective program to bridge the digital divide in legislation to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

The ACP provides a lifeline for millions of Americans by enabling them to access essential services, participate in remote learning, engage in telehealth services, search for employment opportunities, and stay connected with loved ones. High-speed internet access has become an indispensable part of everyday life and allows communities to be connected to vital resources that otherwise would not be accessible or affordable.

Established originally as the Emergency Broadband Benefit and signed into law in 2021 under President Trump, this program currently provides \$30 per month to eligible low-income households and \$75 per month for households on Tribal lands. With over 23 million American households enrolled, the program has been instrumental in providing affordable broadband access across rural, suburban, and urban areas to low-income households. While certain bipartisan reforms to the program are necessary to improve efficiency and effectiveness, it is the most vulnerable families across the nation that will bear the burden of our inaction if funding lapses. Additionally, a sudden loss of access for millions of Americans will place additional strain on other government programs as they become inundated with requests that were previously accessible online.

We must move quickly to secure the short-term future of this widely-supported program. Preserving the ACP will ensure that millions of Americans will maintain access essential

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<sup>1</sup> <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-402286A1.pdf>

resources for work, education, healthcare, and more. Including this funding in must-pass FAA legislation will allow Congress the time needed to reach consensus on reforms and a long-term, sustainable funding solution.

23 million American households – including seniors, veterans and military families, rural communities and more – are counting on us to safeguard them from potential disconnection to vital resources. Your leadership on this issue is crucial. We urge you to include funding for the ACP in the FAA reauthorization legislation to ensure its continued success and impact on closing the digital divide. Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,



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Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



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Brandon Williams  
Member of Congress



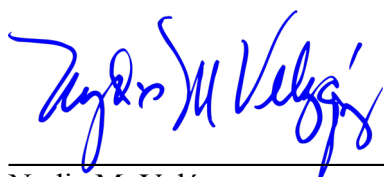
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Colin Z. Allred  
Member of Congress



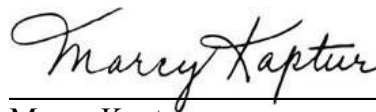
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Stacey E. Plaskett  
Member of Congress



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Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



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Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress



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Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress



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Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



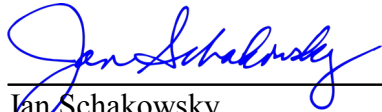
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Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Jim Tokuda  
Member of Congress



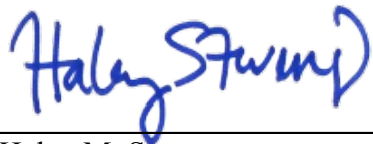
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Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



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Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



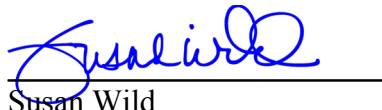
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Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



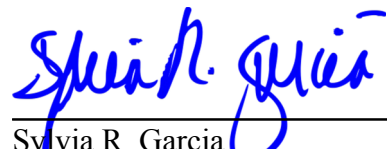
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Lisa Blunt Rochester  
Member of Congress



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Susan Wild  
Member of Congress



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Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



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Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress



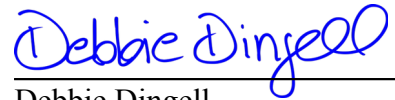
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Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



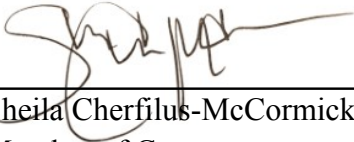
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Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



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Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



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Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress



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Joseph D. Morelle  
Member of Congress



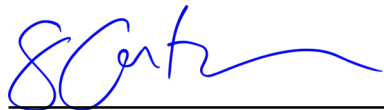
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Summer Lee  
Member of Congress



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Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



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Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



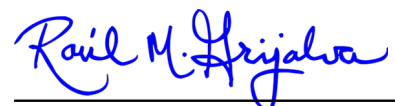
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Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



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Gregorio Kilili Camacho  
Sablan  
Member of Congress



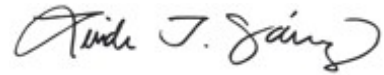
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Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



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Gabe Amo  
Member of Congress



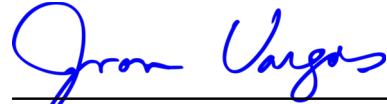
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Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress




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Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress



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Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



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Shontel M. Brown  
Member of Congress



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Patrick Ryan  
Member of Congress



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Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress



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Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.  
Member of Congress



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Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress



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Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



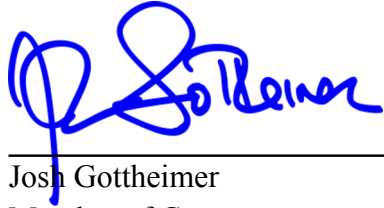
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Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



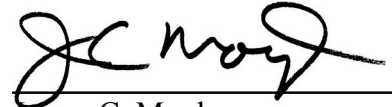
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Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress



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Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



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James C. Moylan  
Member of Congress



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Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



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André Carson  
Member of Congress



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Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress



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Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



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Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



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Lauren Underwood  
Member of Congress



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Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress



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David J. Trone  
Member of Congress



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Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



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Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



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Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



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Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



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Daniel T. Kildee  
Member of Congress



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Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress



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Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



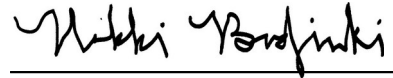
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Andrea Salinas  
Member of Congress



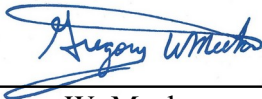
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J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress



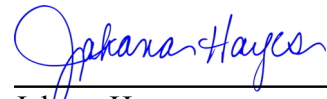
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Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



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Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



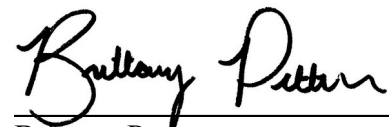
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Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



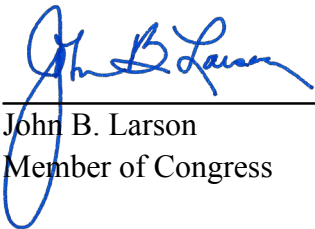
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Donald G. Davis  
Member of Congress



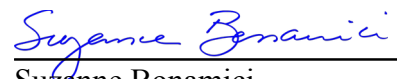
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Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress



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John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



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Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



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Eric Sorensen  
Member of Congress



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Andy Kim  
Member of Congress





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Chris Deluzio  
Member of Congress



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Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress



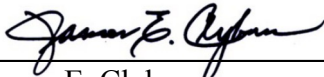
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Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



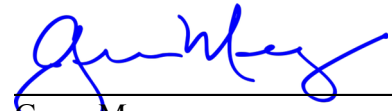
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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



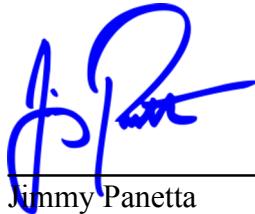
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James E. Clyburn  
Member of Congress (SC-06)



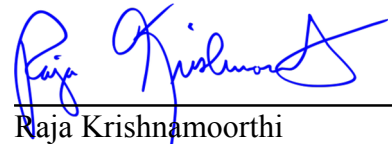
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Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



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Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress



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Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



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Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



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Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



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Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress



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Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



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Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



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Emilia Strong Sykes  
Member of Congress



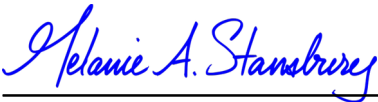
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Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



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James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



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Melanie Stansbury  
Member of Congress



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Mary Sattler Peltola  
Member of Congress



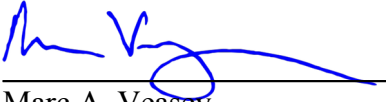
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Josh Harder  
Member of Congress



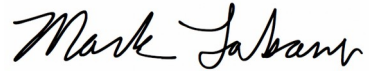
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Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress



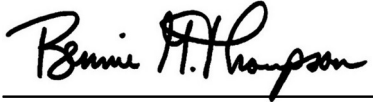
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Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



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Mark Takano  
Member of Congress



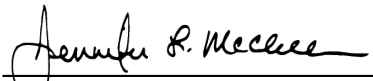
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Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



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Angie Craig  
Member of Congress



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Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



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Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



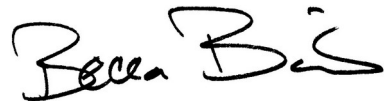
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Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



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Cori Bush  
Member of Congress



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Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



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Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



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Andrew R. Garbarino  
Member of Congress



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Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress



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Teresa Leger Fernández  
Member of Congress



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Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



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Maxwell Alejandro Frost  
Member of Congress



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Katie Porter  
Member of Congress



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Elissa Slotkin  
Member of Congress



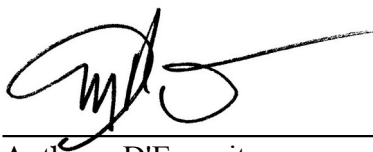
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Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



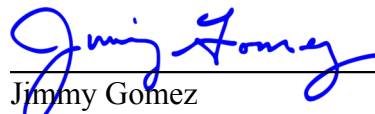
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Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



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Anthony D'Esposito  
Member of Congress



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Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



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Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress



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John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



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Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress



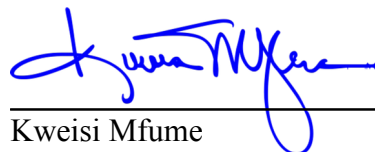
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Jared Moskowitz  
Member of Congress



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Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



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Kweisi Mfume  
Member of Congress



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Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress



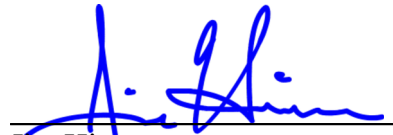
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Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



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Monica De La Cruz  
Member of Congress



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Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



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Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress



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Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress