

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

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RWJF Center for Health Policy
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August 22, 2013

Dr. Sanchez,

We write to you to express our appreciation and excitement that the RWJF Center for Health Policy at the University of New Mexico is hosting this year's Congressional Tri-Caucus Health Disparities Summit, "Practices and Policies That Promote Health Justice". The coordination and creation of an event of this magnitude is no small task, and we understand the RWJF Center has been working very hard to ensure the summit is a resounding success.

We have reviewed the conference agenda, and would like to express our support of the proposed panelists and topics. We are especially glad to see that panelists represent many different backgrounds including men and women who are African American, Afro-Latino, Asian and Pacific Islander, Hispanic, Latino, and American Indian. Given the unique demography of New Mexico, and our expressed intent to include the Native American Caucus and community in these events, we are especially pleased that you have reached out to so many Native American speakers.

In recent weeks, concerns regarding the conference have surfaced, and we have paid careful attention to actions and events since then. Please know that we believe the RWJF Center has responded to these concerns in a timely, professional, and appropriate manner. In doing so, you have demonstrated the Center's ongoing commitment to ensure this conference thoroughly explores health disparities and addresses the concerns of both local and national constituencies.

In your efforts to strike a balance between these overlapping, and sometimes competing interests, you and the RWJF Center have repeatedly demonstrated your dedication to inclusion, transparency and collaboration. Moreover, your personal dedication to resolving this issue has illustrated your professional and personal commitments to cultural inclusion. We commend

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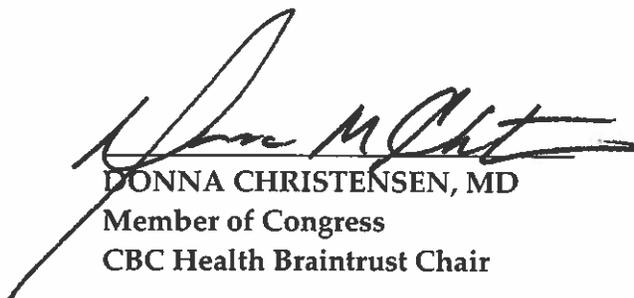
you for this, and encourage you to remain steadfast in these efforts as the conference deadline rapidly approaches.

The RWJF Center for Health Policy plays an important role in the movement to reduce and eliminate health disparities and for this reason, we are pleased you are hosting this year's summit. As your Center continues to recruit and train future health policy scholars and leaders, we hope you will encourage your students to join us in working to redress health disparities and promote a culture of health, dignity, and equality. We look forward to joining you in person, or in spirit, to discuss the path to health equity in September.

Sincerely,



LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD
Member of Congress
CHC Healthcare Taskforce Chair



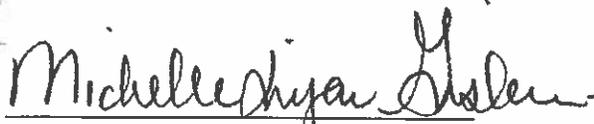
DONNA CHRISTENSEN, MD
Member of Congress
CBC Health Braintrust Chair



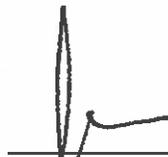
RAUL RUIZ, MD
Member of Congress
CHC Healthcare Taskforce Co-Chair



BARBARA LEE
Member of Congress
CAPAC Healthcare Taskforce Chair



MICHELLE LUJAN-GRISHAM
Member of Congress
Tri-Caucus Health Disparities Summit Host



AMI BERA, MD
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