

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1317

July 25, 2014

The Honorable Harry Reid
Senate Majority Leader
522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader Reid and Speaker Boehner,

We, the undersigned Members of Congress, urge you to not let the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives go out of session prior to a successful resolution to the Conference Committee that was formed to work out a compromise between the Senate and House versions of the *Veteran Access to Care Act*, and its subsequent passage in both chambers of Congress.

The health of the veterans who have served us so bravely should not be placed on the back burner while Congress is away during the August district work period. Our veterans have served the nation with honor, and we owe it to them to waste no more time in ensuring they have access to the best health care possible. In light of recent serious complications and allegations of wrong-doing within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in addition to validated long wait times at VA medical facilities, it is extremely urgent that a fix be put into place as soon as possible.

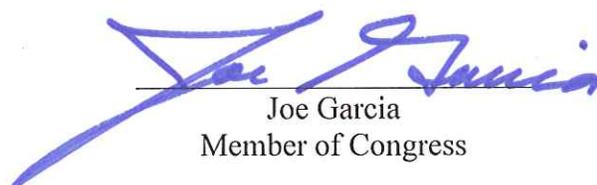
Both the Senate and House versions would expand veterans' ability to seek care at non-VA facilities under certain conditions, strengthen Congress' oversight of the VA and eliminate performance-related bonuses for VA employees. We need to address the overwhelmed VA and ensure all veterans get the care they have earned through their service to our country. Our veterans deserve nothing but the very best.

Again, this issue is far too serious to wait, and we encourage a swift resolution to be found by remaining in session until a suitable compromise bill can be passed out of both chambers. Let's put our nations' veterans, who have sacrificed so much for our freedoms, first.

Sincerely,



Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



Joe Garcia
Member of Congress



Pete P. Gallego
Member of Congress



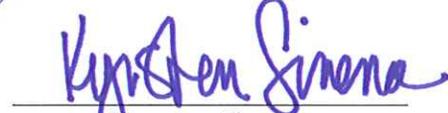
Ron Barber
Member of Congress



Janice Hahn
Member of Congress



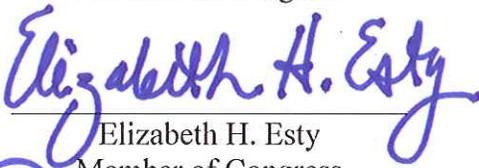
Grace Meng
Member of Congress



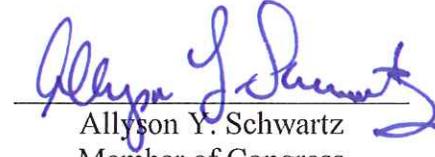
Kyrsten Sinema
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress



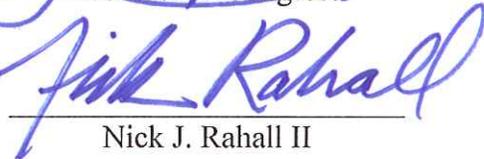
Allyson Y. Schwartz
Member of Congress



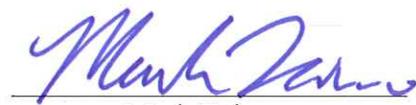
Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress



Ann Kirkpatrick
Member of Congress



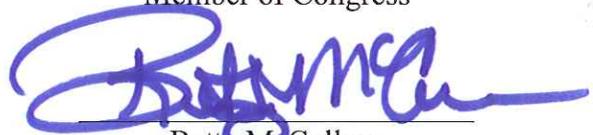
Nick J. Rahall II
Member of Congress



Mark Takano
Member of Congress



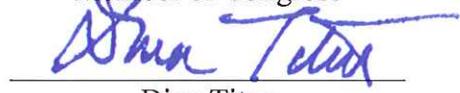
Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



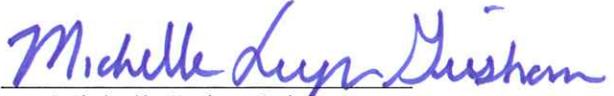
Collin C. Peterson
Member of Congress



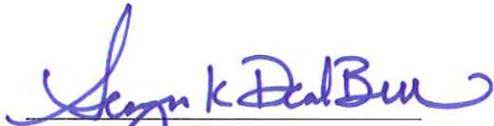
Dina Titus
Member of Congress



Richard M. Nolan
Member of Congress



Michelle Lujan Grisham
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



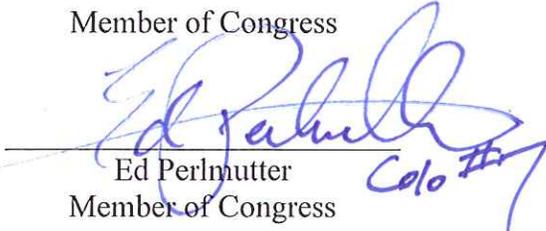
Ann M. Kuster
Member of Congress



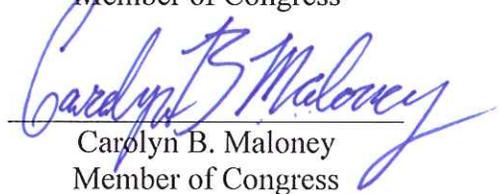
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



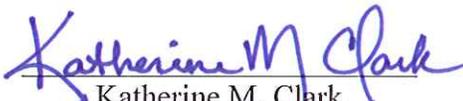
Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress



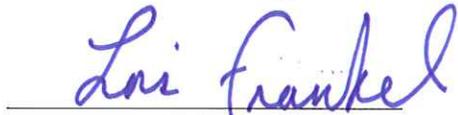
Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



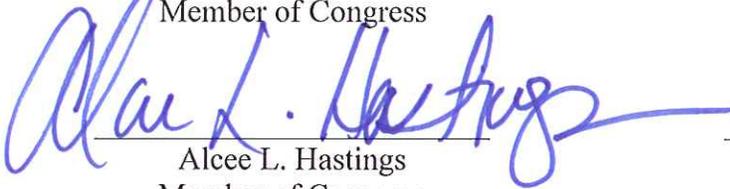
Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



Katherine M. Clark
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



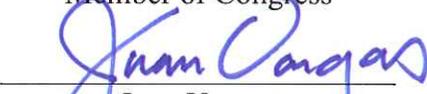
Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



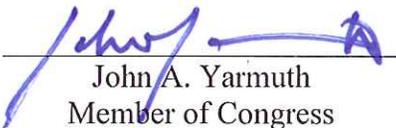
Jackie Speier
Member of Congress



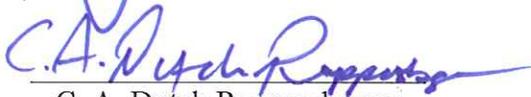
Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



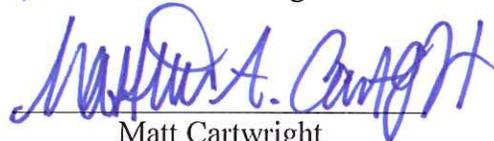
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



John A. Yarmuth
Member of Congress



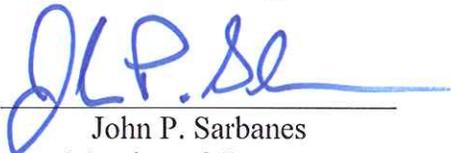
C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger
Member of Congress



Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress



Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress



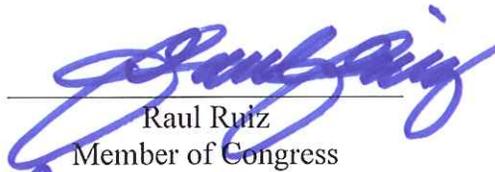
John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz
Member of Congress



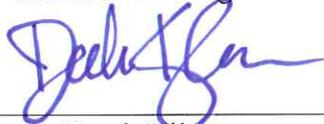
Carol Shea-Porter
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



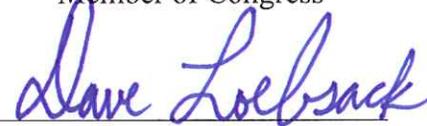
Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress



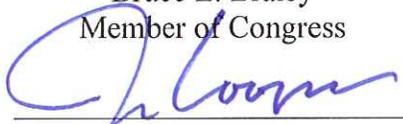
Lois Capps
Member of Congress



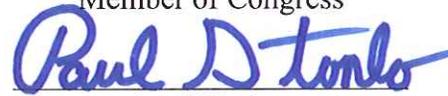
Bruce L. Braley
Member of Congress



Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress



Jim Cooper
Member of Congress



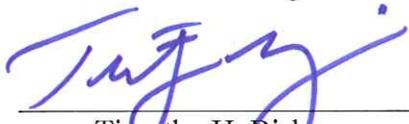
Paul Tonko
Member of Congress



Beto O'Rourke
Member of Congress



Daniel Lipinski
Member of Congress



Timothy H. Bishop
Member of Congress



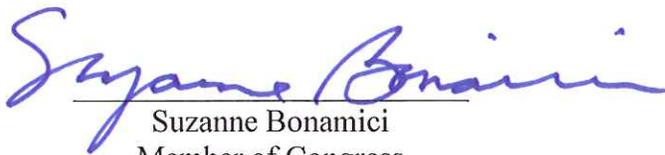
Alan S. Lowenthal
Member of Congress



G. K. Butterfield
Member of Congress



Patrick Murphy
Member of Congress



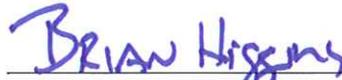
Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



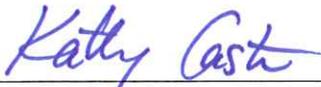
Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



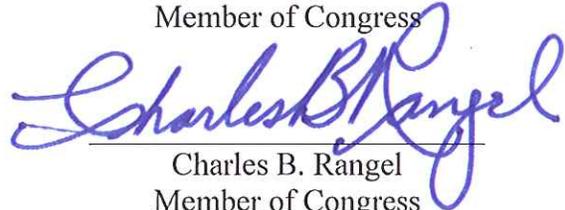
Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



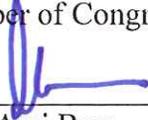
Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress



Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



Ami Bera
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



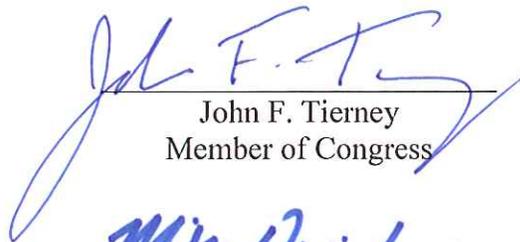
Janice D. Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Louise McIntosh Slaughter
Member of Congress



Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress



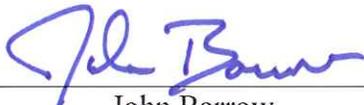
John F. Tierney
Member of Congress



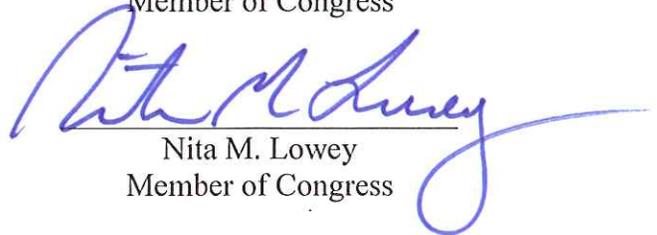
Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



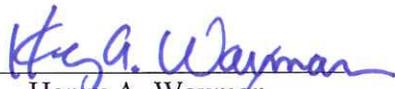
Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



John Barrow
Member of Congress



Nita M. Lowey
Member of Congress



Henry A. Waxman
Member of Congress



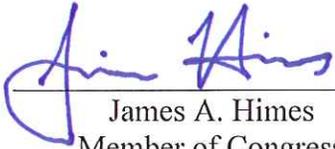
Joseph P. Kennedy III
Member of Congress



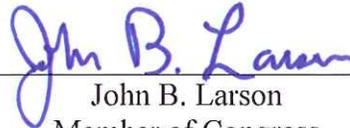
Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress



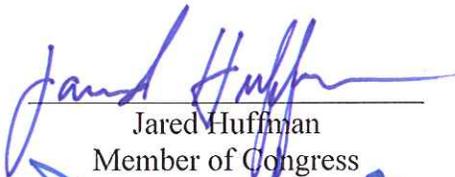
Theodore E. Deutch
Member of Congress



James A. Himes
Member of Congress



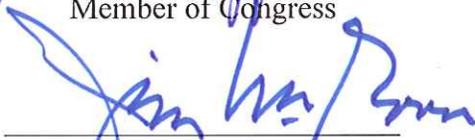
John B. Larson
Member of Congress



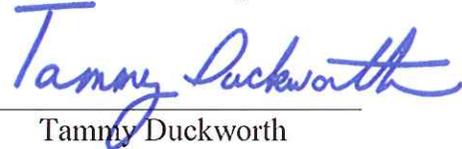
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



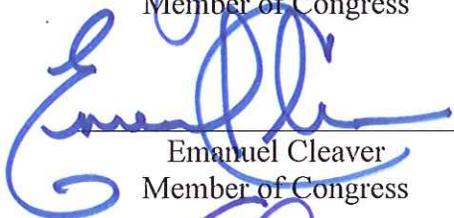
Corrine Brown
Member of Congress



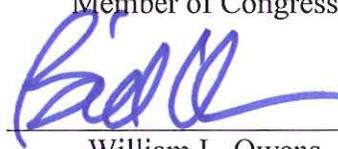
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



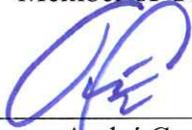
Tammy Duckworth
Member of Congress



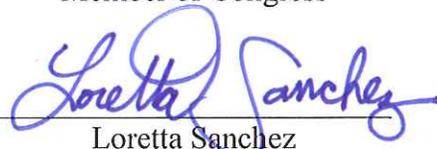
Emanuel Cleaver
Member of Congress



William L. Owens
Member of Congress



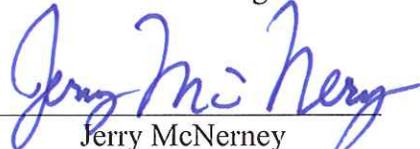
André Carson
Member of Congress



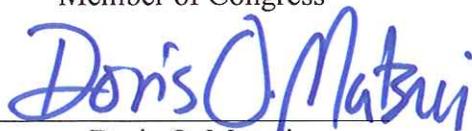
Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress



Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress



Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



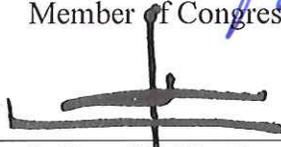
Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



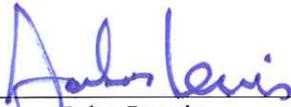
Daniel B. Maffei
Member of Congress



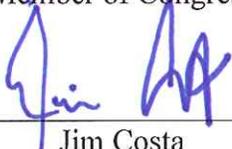
Colleen W. Hanabusa
Member of Congress



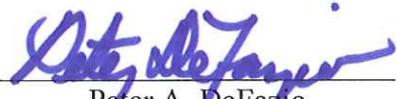
Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



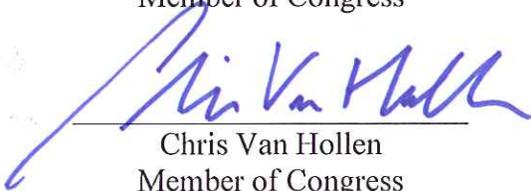
John Lewis
Member of Congress



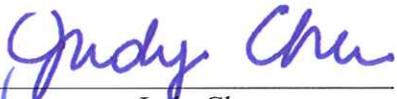
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



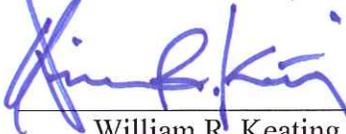
Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



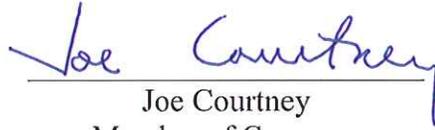
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



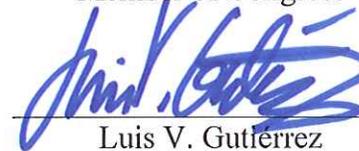
Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



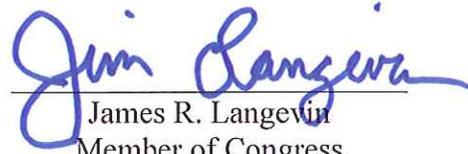
Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



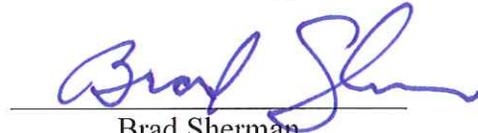
Luis V. Gutierrez
Member of Congress



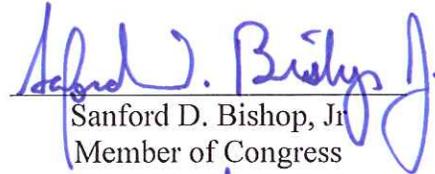
Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



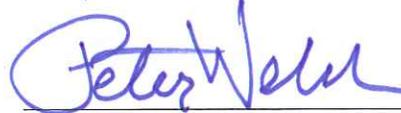
James R. Langevin
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



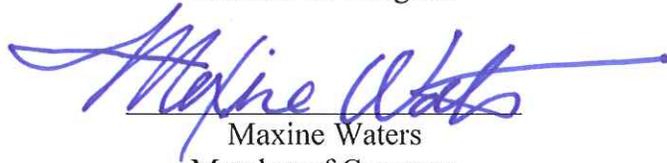
Peter Welch
Member of Congress



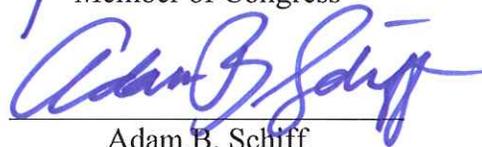
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



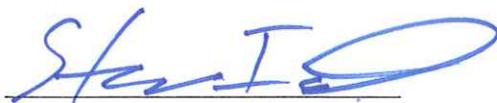
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



Steve Israel
Member of Congress



Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress