

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 28, 2016

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leader Pelosi:

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. and a cause of considerable suffering among the 135,000 adults diagnosed and nearly 50,000 who die each year from this devastating disease. Approximately 60 percent of cases and 70 percent of deaths occur in the Medicare covered population.

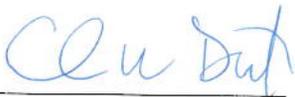
Under current law, screening colonoscopies for seniors on Medicare are free. However, if a polyp is removed during the procedure seniors on Medicare are required to pay 20 percent coinsurance. This coinsurance obligation for patients often exceeds \$300 for those without supplementary coverage. This colonoscopy cost-sharing only occurs in Medicare. H.R. 1220, the Removing Barriers to Colorectal Cancer Screening Act would make this life-saving preventive service available without cost-sharing for Medicare patients just like those in private insurance.

Colonoscopies are proven to prevent and detect colon cancer at earlier stages when treatment is more effective and can save lives. Any cost-sharing can be a major impediment to patients from getting screened, particularly seniors. This vital bill would help to ensure that every senior on Medicare has access to this lifesaving cancer screening, regardless of their ability to pay.

To date, 286 bipartisan members of the U.S. House of Representatives and 38 U.S. Senators signaled their support for a change in law to protect Medicare beneficiaries with their cosponsorship. For this reason, we ask that the bill be brought to the floor for consideration before the end of the 114th Congress.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

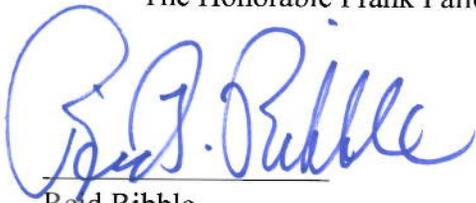


Charles W. Dent
Member of Congress



Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Fred Upton, Chairman, House Energy and Commerce Committee
The Honorable Frank Pallone, Ranking Member, House Energy and Commerce Committee



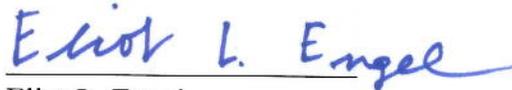
Reid Ribble
Member of Congress



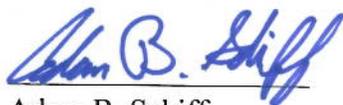
Corrine Brown
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



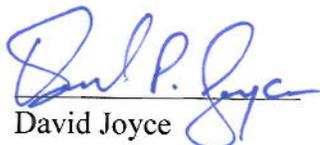
Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress



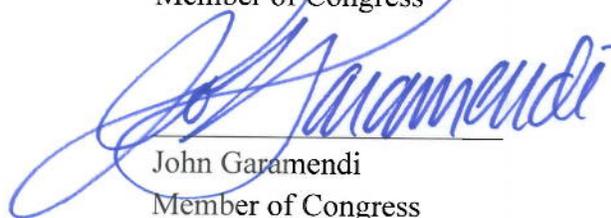
Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



Brenda L. Lawrence
Member of Congress



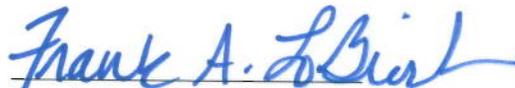
David Joyce
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Frank A. LoBiondo
Member of Congress



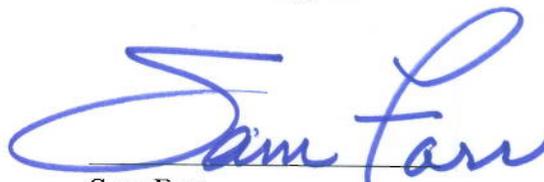
Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



David E. Price
Member of Congress



Sam Farr
Member of Congress



Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress



Collin C. Peterson
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Patrick Meehan
Member of Congress



Michelle Lujan Grisham
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Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



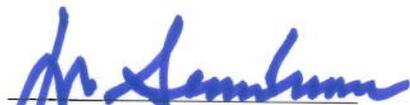
Michael G. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



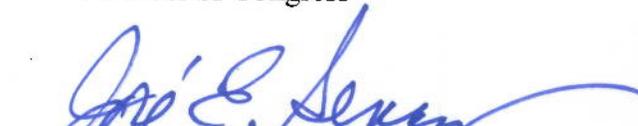
Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



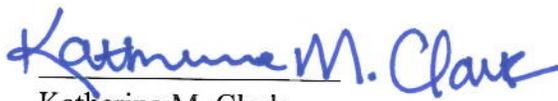
Dina Titus
Member of Congress



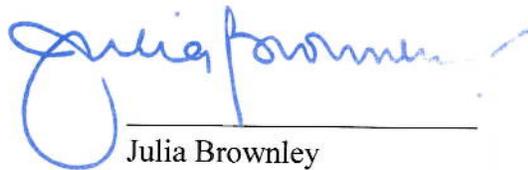
James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Member of Congress



José E. Serrano
Member of Congress



Katherine M. Clark
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Tom Emmer
Member of Congress


Andy Harris
Member of Congress


Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress

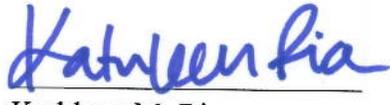

Albio Sires
Member of Congress


Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress

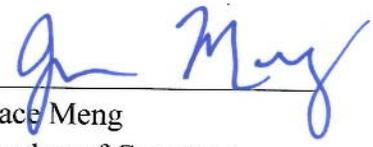

Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

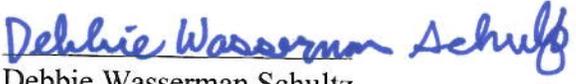

Tim Ryan
Member of Congress

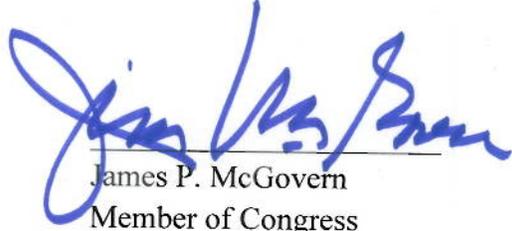

Peter T. King
Member of Congress

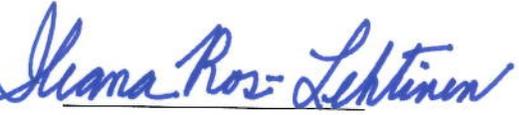

Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress

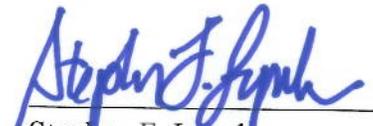

Tom Marino
Member of Congress

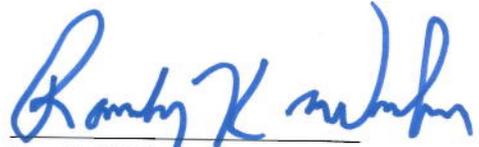

Grace Meng
Member of Congress


Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress


James P. McGovern
Member of Congress


Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress

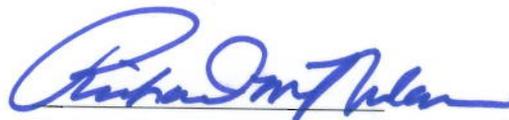

Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress


Randy Weber
Member of Congress

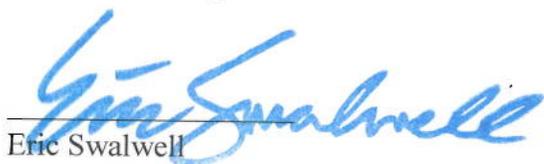

André Carson
Member of Congress



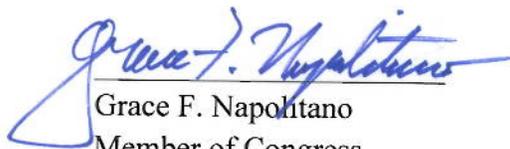
Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



Richard M. Nolan
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



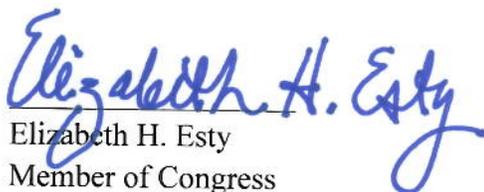
Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress



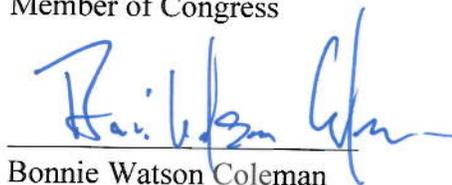
Alan Grayson
Member of Congress



Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress



Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress



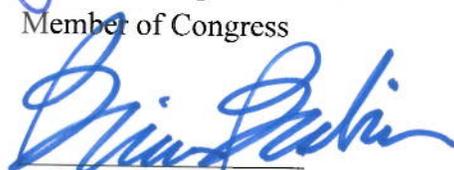
Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



James R. Langevin
Member of Congress



Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress



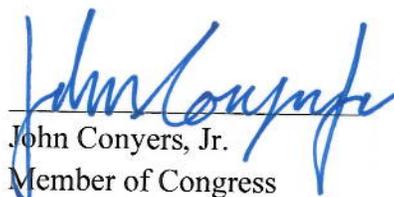
Brian Babin
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Steve Knight
Member of Congress

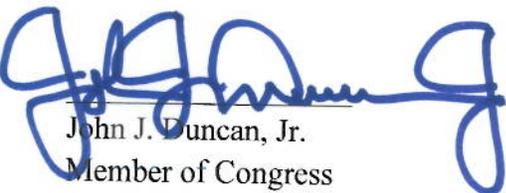


John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress

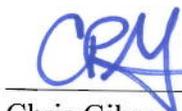
Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



Ted Lieu
Member of Congress



John J. Duncan, Jr.
Member of Congress



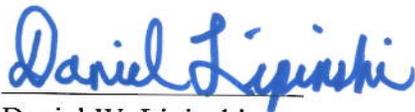
Chris Gibson
Member of Congress



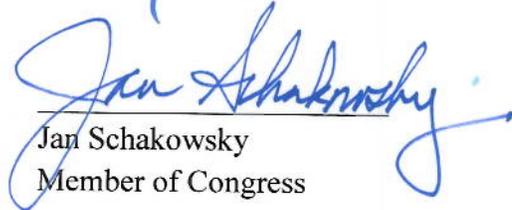
Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress



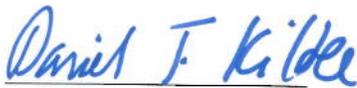
Evan Jenkins
Member of Congress



Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Dan Kildee
Member of Congress



Rodney Davis
Member of Congress



Richard Hanna
Member of Congress



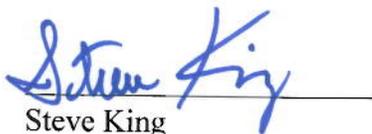
Ted Deutch
Member of Congress



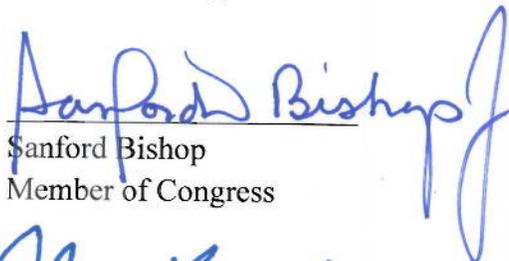
Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



Lou Barletta
Member of Congress



Steve King
Member of Congress



Sanford Bishop
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



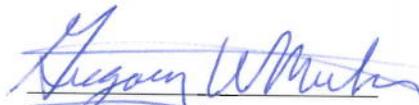
Cedric Richmond
Member of Congress



Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



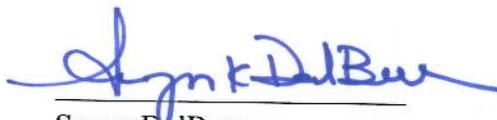
Leonard Lance
Member of Congress



Gregory Meeks
Member of Congress



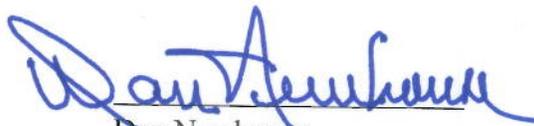
Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress