

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 1, 2025

The Honorable Marco Rubio  
Secretary  
Department of State  
2201 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Kristi Noem  
Secretary  
Department of Homeland Security  
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., SE  
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Rubio and Secretary Noem:

We are deeply concerned by recent reports that the Department of State (DOS) is revoking the visas of students in the United States without any transparency, including through the use of Artificial Intelligence tools.<sup>1</sup> Equally troubling are recent reports that Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is terminating the legal status of students, and in some cases, not even informing them or their respective institutions.<sup>2</sup>

On March 27, Secretary Rubio stated that DOS has been revoking visas for students on a daily basis, and that the total number “might be more than 300 at this point.”<sup>3</sup> Secretary Rubio declined to provide any information about the process through which students are identified for visa revocation.<sup>4</sup> According to recent reporting, more than 1,800 students and recent graduates across 280 colleges and universities have had their visas revoked.<sup>5</sup> Secretary Rubio has also reportedly asked the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to “detain students or recent graduates for deportation because of what he called their opposition to American foreign policy.”<sup>6</sup>

Additionally, ICE is manually terminating students’ legal status in the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS), a web-based system used for tracking and managing the legal status of foreign students and exchange visitors. DHS confirmed that since January 20, 2025, ICE has terminated the status of 4,736 students, “based on ongoing initiatives between DHS and DOS directed by Executive Orders signed by the President and directed by the Departments’ Secretaries in compliance with those orders.”<sup>7</sup> DHS further confirmed that ICE will terminate a student’s legal status “in instances where there is evidence that a student has

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<sup>1</sup> Marc Caputo, *State Dept. to use AI to revoke visas of foreign students who appear “pro-Hamas”*, AXIOS (Mar. 6, 2025), <https://www.axios.com/2025/03/06/state-department-ai-revoke-foreign-student-visas-hamas>.

<sup>2</sup> Prem Thaker, *ICE Revoking Students’ Immigration Statuses Without Their or the University’s Knowledge*, ZETEO (Mar. 29, 2025), <https://zeteo.com/p/ice-manually-revoking-university-students-residency-status-middle-east>.

<sup>3</sup> Daniella Silva, Chloe Atkins, Julia Ainsley and Abigail Williams, *Trump takes aim at foreign-born college students, with 300 visas revoked*, NBC NEWS (Mar. 27, 2025), <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/trump-administration-takes-aim-immigrant-students-rcna198346>.

<sup>4</sup> Edward Wong, *Rubio Says He Has Revoked 300 or More Visas in Trump’s Deportation Push*, N.Y. TIMES (Mar. 27, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/03/28/us/politics/rubio-immigration-students-ozturk-chung-khalil.html>.

<sup>5</sup> Ashley Mowreader, *International Student Visas Revoked*, INSIDE HIGHER ED, <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/global/international-students-us/2025/04/07/where-students-have-had-their-visas-revoked>.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> On file with Committee staff.

violated a criminal law as determined by HSI agents, had their visa revoked by Department of State (DOS), or otherwise committed a violation of their nonimmigrant status.”<sup>8</sup>

But DHS’s ability to terminate a student’s legal status “is limited by [8 C.F.R.] § 214.1(d).”<sup>9</sup> Under this regulation, DHS can terminate a student’s legal status in SEVIS only when: (1) a previously granted waiver under 8 U.S.C. § 1182(d)(3) or (4) is revoked; (2) a private bill to confer lawful permanent residence is introduced in Congress; or (3) DHS publishes a notification in the Federal Register identifying national security, diplomatic, or public safety reasons for termination. If ICE fails to comply with the requirements set forth in 8 C.F.R. 214.1(d) when terminating students’ legal status, then those terminations are unlawful.

Moreover, according to officials at several universities, ICE is not even notifying students and universities of these terminations in some cases,<sup>10</sup> leaving students vulnerable to sudden apprehension by ICE with no explanation for why they are being targeted. Some universities are even “checking on visa revocations hourly and being on call to share SEVIS termination with the student quickly.”<sup>11</sup> This appears to be an attack on student visa holders writ-large, and not just on those who hold policy positions with which the administration disagrees.

Across the country, students are being picked up – in some cases by masked immigration agents in unmarked cars – and being held in detention facilities with no warning and limited information as to why they are being deported. In one instance, Rumeysa Ozturk, a Turkish national and Fulbright Scholar pursuing her Ph.D. at Tufts University, was detained by ICE agents on March 25, 2025, outside her apartment building in Somerville, Massachusetts.<sup>12</sup> She was surrounded on the sidewalk by six agents in plainclothes and masks who handcuffed her and hustled her into an unmarked car. Ms. Ozturk was driven to multiple government offices in New England and then flown 1,300 miles away the next day to an ICE facility in Louisiana, where she is currently detained.<sup>13</sup> Throughout this process, she was not charged with any wrongdoing or given the opportunity to speak with a lawyer.<sup>14</sup>

In another case, an Iranian national and doctoral student at the University of Alabama was detained by ICE at his home at 5:00 a.m.<sup>15</sup> While DHS has issued a public statement alleging that the student posed “national security concerns,” his lawyer confirmed that he is not aware of any allegations of misconduct against his client<sup>16</sup> and that “DHS has not provided a reason as to why [he] would be labeled a national security threat.”<sup>17</sup> The Departments of State and Homeland Security have yet to provide any additional information to the student or his lawyer.

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> *Jie Fang v. Director U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement*, 935 F.3d 172, 185 n.100 (3d Cir. 2019).

<sup>10</sup> Thaker, *supra* note 2.

<sup>11</sup> Stuart Anderson, *Trump Immigration Policies Increase Peril For International Students*, FORBES (Mar. 31, 2025), <https://www.forbes.com/sites/stuartanderson/2025/03/31/trump-immigration-policies-increase-peril-for-international-students/>.

<sup>12</sup> Gloria Pazmino, *What we know about the Tufts University PhD student detained by federal agents*, CNN (Mar. 28, 2025), <https://edition.cnn.com/2025/03/27/us/rumeysa-ozturk-detained-what-we-know/index.html>.

<sup>13</sup> *Id.*

<sup>14</sup> *Id.*

<sup>15</sup> Patrick Smith, *ICE detains University of Alabama doctoral student as government's college crackdown continues*, NBC NEWS (Mar. 27, 2025), <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/university-alabama-doctoral-student-detained-ice-governments-college-c-rcna198320>.

<sup>16</sup> *Id.*

This heavy-handed approach has even extended to Lawful Permanent Residents like Columbia student, Yunseo Chung, who has lived in the United States since she was seven years old. Over the course of five days, DHS agents showed up at Ms. Chung's parents' house in search of her, and federal law enforcement agents executed search warrants at two residences on Columbia University's campus, including Ms. Chung's dorm, on the basis that the University was "harboring" an immigrant unlawfully.<sup>18</sup> The harboring statute, 8 U.S.C. § 1324, specifically states that it does not apply to non-citizens "lawfully admitted for permanent residence," like Ms. Chung.<sup>19</sup>

For generations, America's universities have been the bedrock of debate, free speech, and the open exchange of ideas. Our campuses have been spaces where students and scholars from around the world come together to challenge assumptions, push the boundaries of knowledge, and foster the innovation that has made our country a global leader. Moreover, international students enrolling in our universities is essential to maintain our world class STEM programs.<sup>20</sup> But today, the Trump administration's heavy-handed and politically motivated immigration enforcement is turning university campuses into places of fear, rather than learning, and these actions deter students from coming to study at U.S. institutions. This is not about national security. It is about using immigration enforcement as a weapon to stifle political dissent, restrict due process, and enforce an exclusionary and nativist vision of America that runs counter to everything our institutions of higher learning stand for.

Given the extraordinary concerns raised by these actions, please produce the following information by May 15, 2025:

1. How many student visas (F, J, M) has the Department of State revoked since January 20, 2025?
  - a. Please provide the following details for each revoked visa:
    - i. The specific visa type;
    - ii. The legal authority for the revocation;
    - iii. The country of origin for the student; and
    - iv. The academic institution the student is attending.
2. According to DHS, as of April 10, 2025, ICE has terminated the status of 4,736 students. How many students have had their legal status terminated in SEVIS by ICE since then?
  - a. Please provide the following details for each status termination since January 20, 2025:

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<sup>17</sup> Drew Taylore, *Alireza Doroudi arrest in Alabama may have been part of a 'targeted operation' by ICE, attorney says*, CBS 42 (Apr. 2, 2025), <https://www.cbs42.com/news/local/alireza-doroudi-arrest-in-alabama-may-have-been-part-of-a-targeted-operation-by-ice-attorney-says/>.

<sup>18</sup> Jonah E. Bromwich and Hamed Aleaziz, *Columbia Student Hunted by ICE Sues to Prevent Deportation*, N.Y. TIMES (Mar. 24, 2025), <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/03/24/nyregion/columbia-student-ice-suit-yunseo-chung.html>.

<sup>19</sup> 8 U.S.C. §§ 1324; [1324a\(h\)\(3\)](#).

<sup>20</sup> See, e.g., Jack Corrigan, *The advantages of foreign STEM students staying in the US*, THE HILL (Jun. 14, 2022) <https://thehill.com/opinion/immigration/3522679-the-advantages-of-foreign-stem-students-becoming-us-citizens>; Yingyi Ma, *How America lost the heart of China's top talent*, BROOKINGS INSTITUTION (Nov. 16, 2023) <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/how-america-lost-the-heart-of-chinas-top-talent>.

- i. The specific legal status terminated;
  - ii. The legal authority for the termination;
  - iii. The country of origin for the student; and
  - iv. The academic institution the student is attending.
3. What criteria or factors does the Department of State use to identify students for visa revocation?
4. What criteria does ICE use to identify students for termination of legal status in SEVIS?
5. Does the Department of State or ICE use Artificial Intelligence tools to identify students for potential visa revocation or termination of legal status in SEVIS?
  - a. If so, please provide detailed information regarding each Artificial Intelligence tool used.
6. Are students and their schools notified when the student's visa is revoked or their legal status in SEVIS is terminated?
  - a. If so, what is the process for notification?
  - b. If no notification is provided, what is the justification for withholding such information?

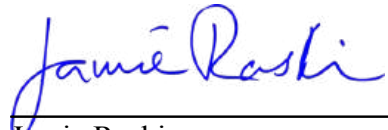
Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

Sincerely,



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Pramila Jayapal  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on  
Immigration Integrity,  
Security, and Enforcement



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Jamie Raskin  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on the  
Judiciary



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Gabe Amo  
Member of Congress

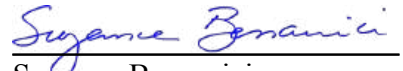


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Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



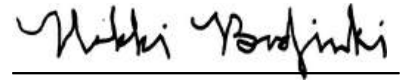
Wesley Bell  
Member of Congress



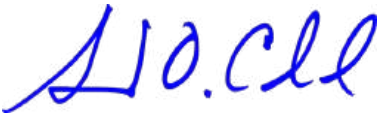
Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



Shontel M. Brown  
Member of Congress



Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



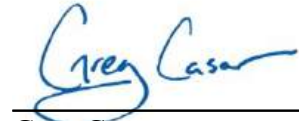
Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Andre Carson  
Member of Congress



Troy A. Carter, Sr.  
Member of Congress




Greg Casar  
Member of Congress




Kathy Castor  
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress




Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



Maxine Dexter  
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



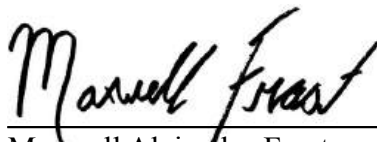
Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



Cleo Fields  
Member of Congress



Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



Maxwell Alejandro Frost  
Member of Congress



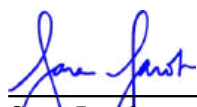
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Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress



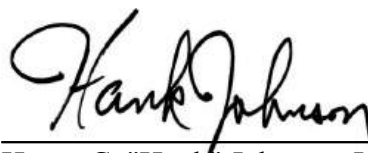
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Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress



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Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



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



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Julie Johnson  
Member of Congress



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Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



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Val Hoyle  
Member of Congress



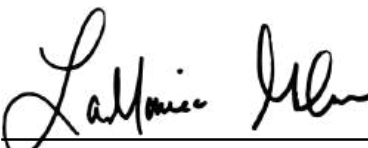
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William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



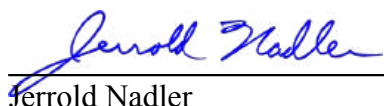
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Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



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LaMonica McIver  
Member of Congress



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Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress





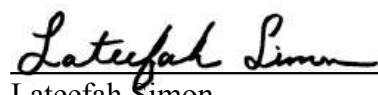
Mark Pocan  
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Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon  
Member of Congress



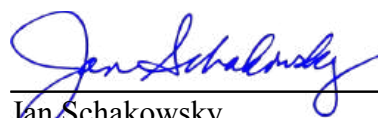
Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



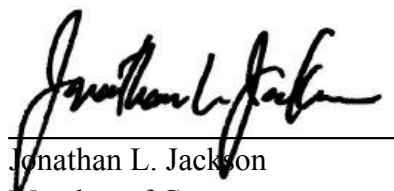
Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



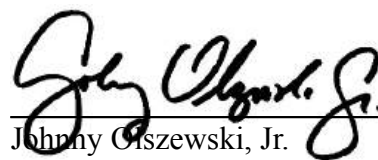
Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



Johnny Ciszewski, Jr.  
Member of Congress





Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



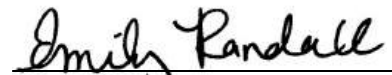
Paul Tonko  
Member of Congress



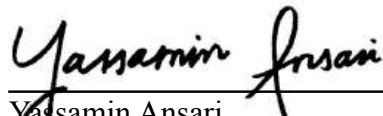
Summer L. Lee  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



Emily Randall  
Member of Congress



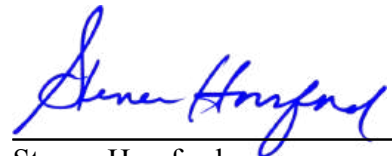
Yassamin Ansari  
Member of Congress




Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress



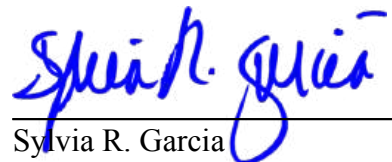
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress



Dave Min  
Member of Congress




Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress




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Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress




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Nancy Pelosi  
Member of Congress




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John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



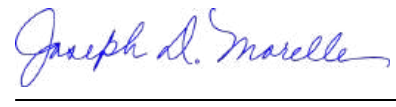
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John B. Larson  
Member of Congress




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Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



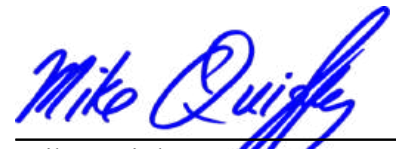
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Joseph D. Morelle  
Member of Congress




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Teresa Leger Fernández  
Member of Congress



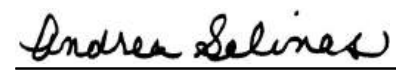
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Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



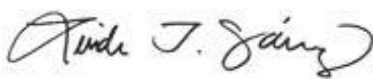
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Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress




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Andrea Salinas  
Member of Congress



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Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



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Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



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MARK TAKANO  
Member of Congress



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Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



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Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



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Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



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Lauren Underwood  
Member of Congress



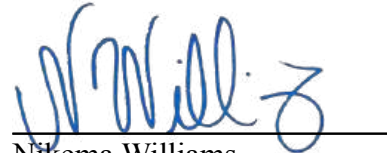
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Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



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Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



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Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



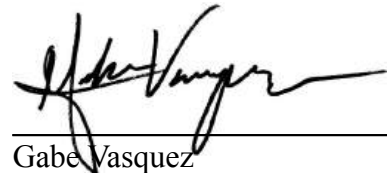
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Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



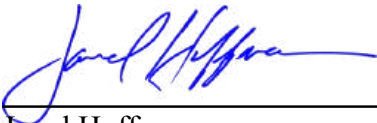
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Rosa L. DeLauro  
Member of Congress

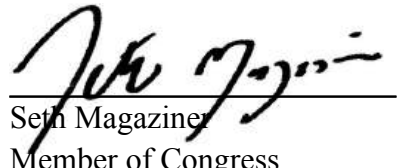


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Gabe Vasquez  
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



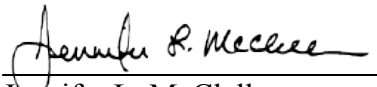
Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress



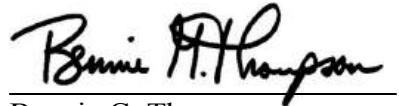
Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



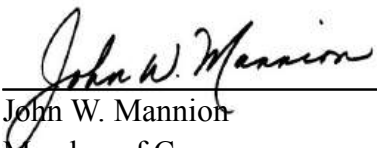
Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress




Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



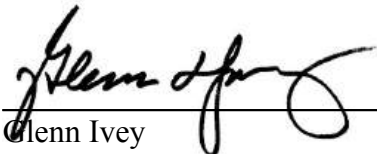
Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



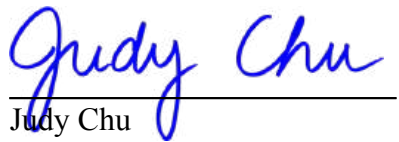
John W. Mannion  
Member of Congress



Maggie Goodlander  
Member of Congress



Glenn Ivey  
Member of Congress



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



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Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



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Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



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Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



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Sam T. Luccardo  
Member of Congress



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Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



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Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



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Al Green  
Member of Congress



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Jake Auchincloss  
Member of Congress



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Kelly Morrison  
Member of Congress



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Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress



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Robert J. Menendez  
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



Laura Friedman  
Member of Congress



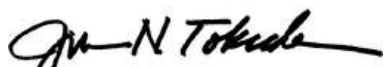
Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



Sydney Kamlager-Dove  
Member of Congress



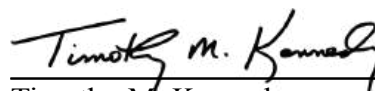
Jim Tokuda  
Member of Congress



Valerie P. Foushee  
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



Timothy M. Kennedy  
Member of Congress



Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



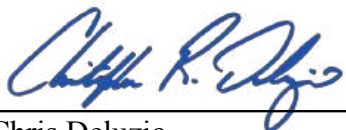
Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



Melanie Stansbury  
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress



Chris Deluzio  
Member of Congress



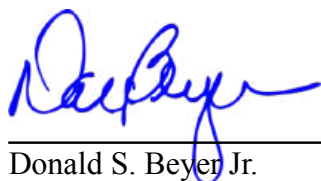
Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam  
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress

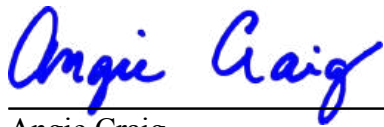


Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress





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Angie Craig  
Member of Congress



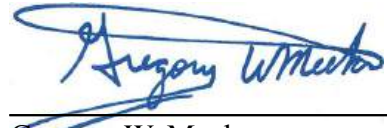
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Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress



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Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



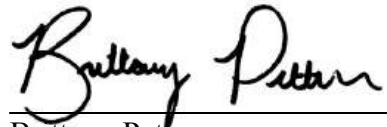
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Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



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Luz M. Rivas  
Member of Congress



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Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress

CC: Todd M. Lyons, Acting Director, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement