

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 2, 2014

The Honorable Michael K. Simpson,
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy & Water
Development, & Related Agencies
2362-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur,
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Energy & Water
Development, & Related Agencies
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Kaptur:

We write to urge your continued support for key energy efficiency and clean energy programs within the Department of Energy: the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) and the State Energy Program (SEP). These programs provide the foundation for clean energy investments that create jobs, increase American competitiveness, save families and businesses money through improved efficiency, and reduce pollution. While we understand the challenges in developing an appropriations bill in a constrained fiscal environment, we respectfully request that you fund WAP at \$227.6 million and SEP at \$63 million for Fiscal Year (FY) 2015.

The Weatherization Assistance Program helps low-income families, seniors, veterans, and individuals with disabilities improve the energy efficiency of their homes, freeing up limited resources for other essentials like food and medicine. During the past 34 years, WAP has provided weatherization services to more than 7.3 million low-income households, reducing their annual energy bills by an average of \$437. Those savings stay within the local economy and have a large "multiplier effect," spurring further job growth and economic development. A study by Oak Ridge National Laboratory found that for every \$1 invested in the program, weatherization returns \$2.51 in benefits to the household and society. Restoring funding for WAP to \$227.6 million, a level closer to past funding levels, will ensure that all states have the resources to support their weatherization programs that help reduce the burden of high energy prices on low-income families.

The State Energy Program enables states to assist with the development of energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, such as improving the efficiency of hospitals and schools, working with utilities and energy service companies to install clean energy and energy efficiency projects, and supporting private sector energy innovations through business incubators and job training. Similar to WAP, each dollar of SEP funding produces significant returns. Another study, also by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory, found that every dollar of SEP federal funds are leveraged by \$10.71 of state and private funds, and result in \$7.22 in energy cost savings. We respectfully request that this program be funded at \$63 million, the same level included in the President's FY 2015 budget request.

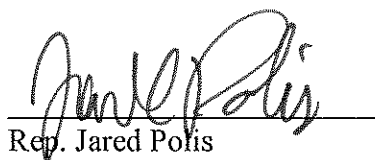
We appreciate your efforts in confronting our country's fiscal challenges and your prioritization of programs that promote job growth and assist with the nation's economic recovery. In this spirit, we believe that investments in programs like WAP and SEP that reduce costs for both individuals and businesses, and create greater economic opportunities in communities across the nation, should be maintained.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, and we look forward to working with you on this important matter.

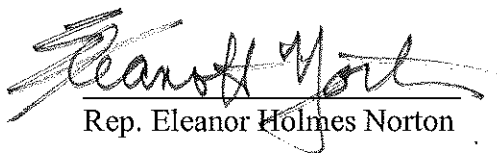
Sincerely,



Rep. Paul D. Tonko



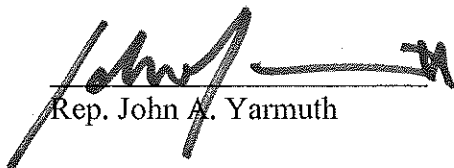
Rep. Jared Polis



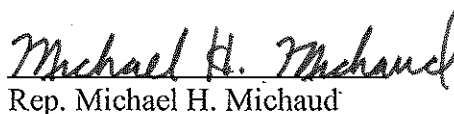
Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton



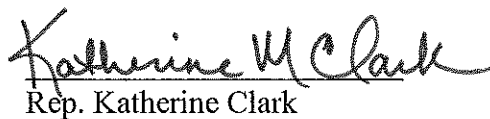
Rep. William R. Keating



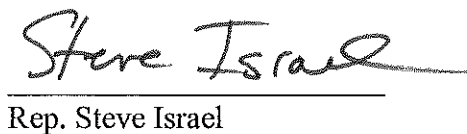
Rep. John A. Yarmuth



Rep. Michael H. Michaud



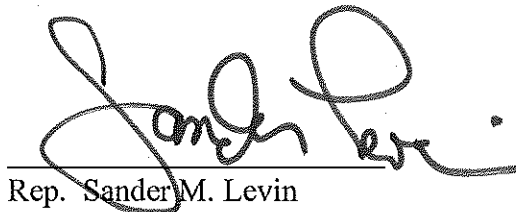
Rep. Katherine Clark



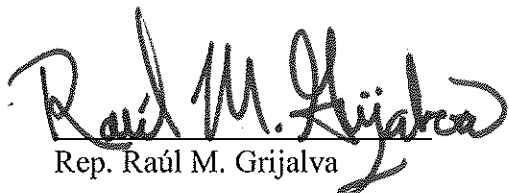
Rep. Steve Israel



Rep. Suzanne Bonamici



Rep. Sander M. Levin



Rep. Raúl M. Grijalva



Rep. C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger



Rep. Chellie Pingree



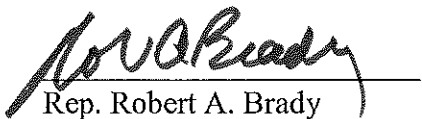
Rep. Rush Holt



Rep. Peter Welch



Rep. Pedro R. Pierluisi



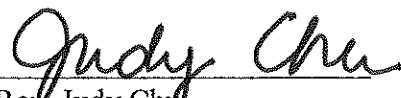
Rep. Robert A. Brady



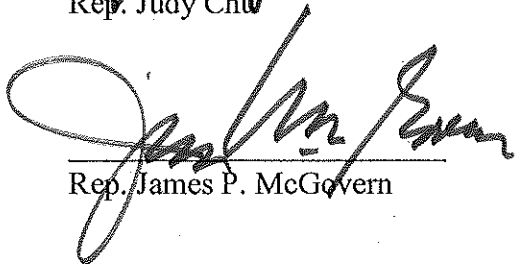
Rep. Frederica S. Wilson



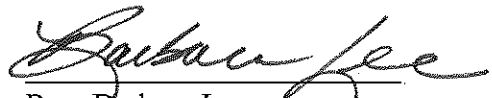
Rep. David N. Cicilline



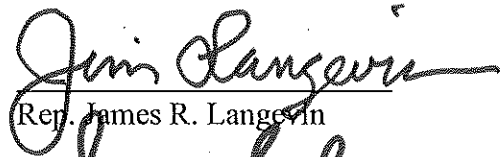
Rep. Judy Chu



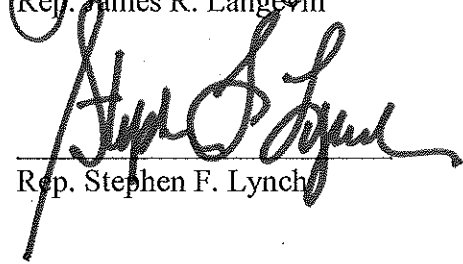
Rep. James P. McGovern



Rep. Barbara Lee



Rep. James R. Langevin



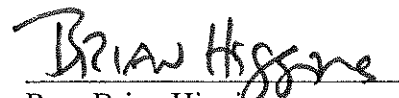
Rep. Stephen F. Lynch



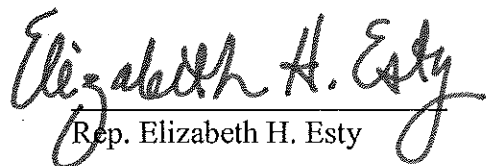
Rep. Earl Blumenauer



Rep. David Loebsock



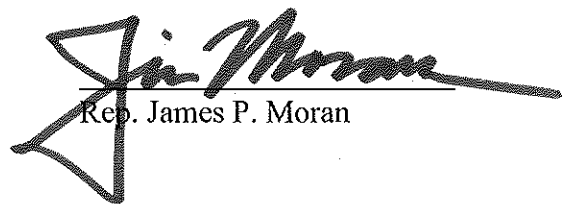
Rep. Brian Higgins



Rep. Elizabeth H. Esty



Rep. Carol Shea-Porter



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Rosa L. DeLauro

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Niki Tsongas

Rep. Niki Tsongas

Gerald E. Connolly

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John P. Sarbanes

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Elijah E. Cummings

Rep. Elijah E. Cummings

Corrine Brown

Rep. Corrine Brown

Diana DeGette

Rep. Diana DeGette

Ron Kind

Rep. Ron Kind

Hank Johnson

Rep. Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.

Joseph P. Kennedy, III

Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy, III

Matthew A. Cartwright

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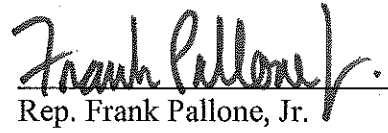
Marcia L. Fudge


Rep. Marcia L. Fudge

John Conyers, Jr.

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Rep. Joe Courtney

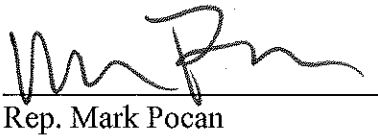

Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr.


Rep. Donna M. Christensen

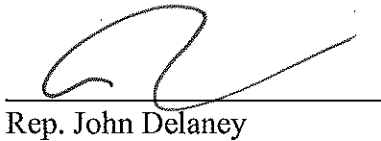

Rep. Kathy Castor

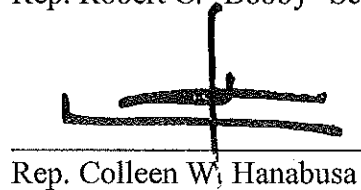

Rep. William L. Owens


Rep. Michael E. Capuano

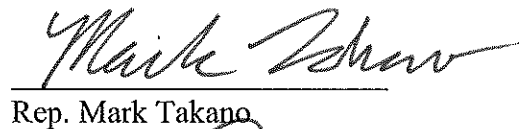

Rep. Mark Pocan


Rep. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott

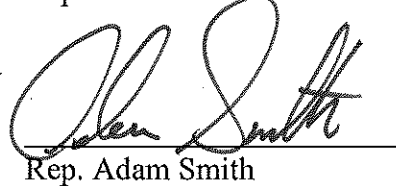

Rep. John Delaney

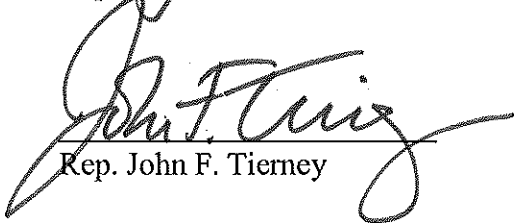

Rep. Colleen W. Hanabusa

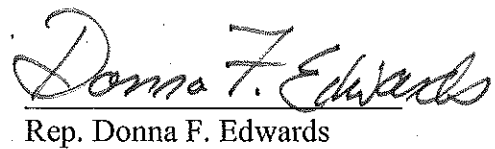

Rep. Denny Heck


Rep. Mark Takano

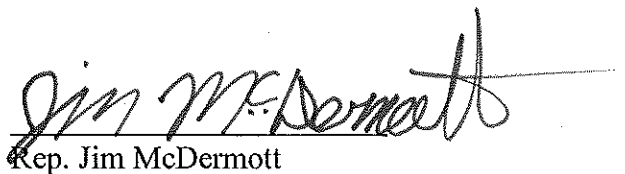

Rep. Suzan K. DelBene

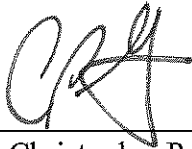

Rep. Adam Smith


Rep. John F. Tierney

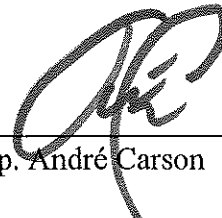

Rep. Donna F. Edwards


Rep. Bill Foster


Rep. Jim McDermott



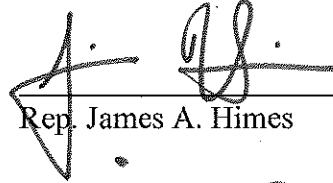
Rep. Christopher P. Gibson



Rep. André Carson




Rep. Jim Gerlach



Rep. James A. Himes



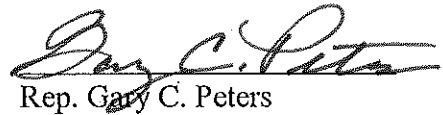
Rep. Alan S. Lowenthal



Rep. Keith Ellison



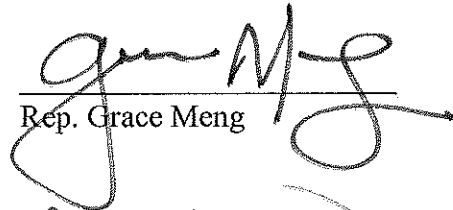
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Rep. Gary C. Peters



Rep. Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan



Rep. Grace Meng



Rep. Yvette D. Clarke



Rep. Ben Ray Luján