

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 18, 2013

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. President,

We are deeply concerned about the growing trade imbalance between the United States and India, which we believe is due in no small part to policies by the Government of India to favor domestic producers over U.S. exporters. The House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade recently held a hearing to explore these issues, out of which came several troubling developments we wish to call to your attention.

Over the last year, Indian policymakers and courts have taken a series of actions designed to block imports by forcing local production of a wide range of manufactured goods. For example, the Indian Government recently demanded that as much as 100 percent of its market for certain information technology and clean energy equipment must be satisfied by firms based domestically.

In particular, the intellectual property (IP) climate has become increasingly challenging in India. U.S. companies have suffered from a whole host of IP issues in areas including information technology, renewable energy, and biopharmaceuticals. For example, last year several biopharmaceutical companies inappropriately had their patents revoked or their appeals denied by the Indian courts to market a variety of life-saving drugs in India. Additionally, the Indian Government issued its first compulsory license (CL) on a stage three liver and kidney cancer drug. It has been reported that additional drugs may be subject to CLs imminently and that the decisions related to these CLs are being improperly driven by an interest in growing the pharmaceutical market in India. These actions by the Indian Government greatly concern us because innovation and the protection of intellectual property are significant driving engines of the U.S. economy.

Nearly 40 million workers – 30 percent of the American workforce – are employed directly or indirectly in intellectual property intensive industries. These industries will dictate U.S. success or failure in the global marketplace, and are increasingly important for the Indian economy as well. On a bipartisan basis, we understand that the U. S. must demonstrate strong leadership in protecting IP rights and ensure that our trading partners pursue high standards of IP protection. The chilling effect on global R&D investment, both in the US and in India, as a result of India's IP policies could have a significant negative impact on jobs and investment in the United States.

Moreover, India is a thought leader among emerging countries, and others have already begun emulating India's IP policies. The U.S. Government must send a strong signal to the Indian Government that these actions are inconsistent with India's international obligations, set a bad precedent, and undermine the culture of innovation that Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh himself has been promoting.

India is a highly-valued strategic partner and we support strong, continued growth in the trade and investment relationship. In an effort to continue this positive trajectory, the Indian Government should consider constructive ways to address the deteriorating trade and investment climate in India. Therefore, we urge you to make sure these issues are raised at the highest levels of the Indian government and that they are a top priority at the upcoming U.S.-India Strategic Dialogue and other bilateral and multilateral meetings.

We appreciate your continued attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Erik Paulsen
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Sam Johnson
Member of Congress



Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress



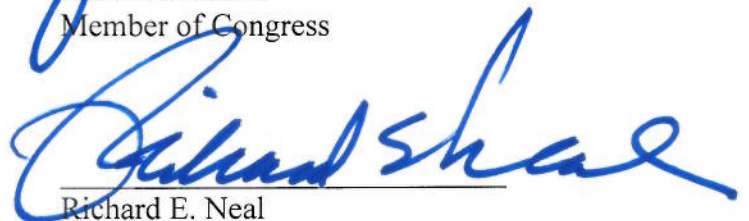
Kevin Brady
Member of Congress



Jim McDermott
Member of Congress



Pat Tiberi
Member of Congress



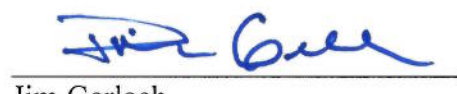
Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress

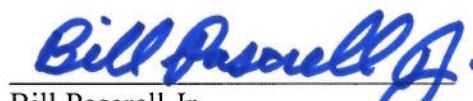

David G. Reichert
Member of Congress

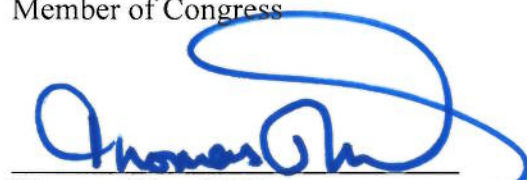

Mike Thompson
Member of Congress


Charles W. Boustany Jr.
Member of Congress


Ron Kind
Member of Congress


Jim Gerlach
Member of Congress

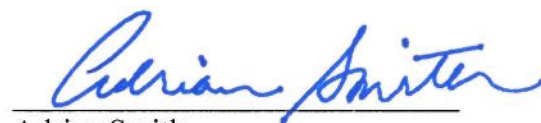

Bill Pascrell Jr.
Member of Congress

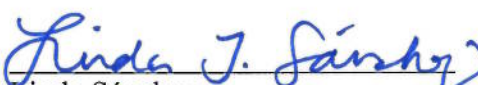

Thomas Price, M.D.
Member of Congress


Allyson K. Schwartz
Member of Congress

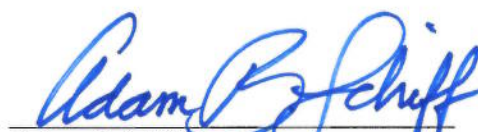

Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress


Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress


Adrian Smith
Member of Congress


Linda Sánchez
Member of Congress


Aaron Schock
Member of Congress


Adam Schiff
Member of Congress



Lynn Jenkins
Member of Congress



Scott Peters
Member of Congress



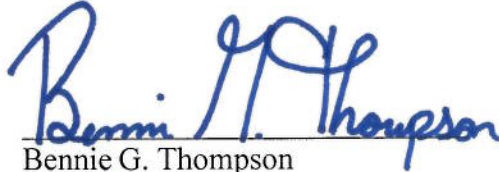
Kenny Marchant
Member of Congress



Dan Kildee
Member of Congress



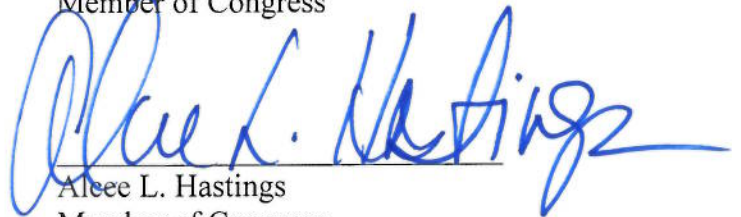
Diane Black
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



Tom Reed
Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



Todd Young
Member of Congress



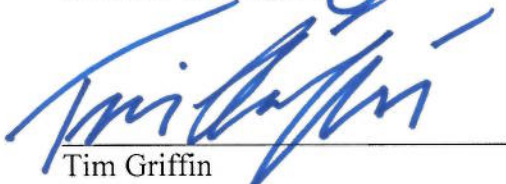
Hank Johnson Jr.
Member of Congress



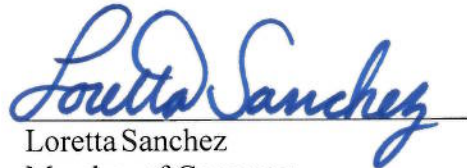
Mike Kelly
Member of Congress



Mike McIntyre
Member of Congress



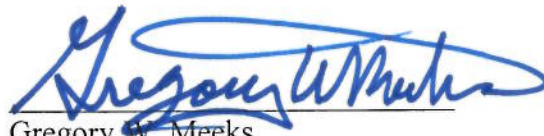
Tim Griffin
Member of Congress



Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress



Jim Renacci
Member of Congress



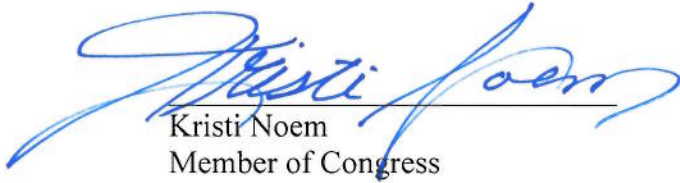
Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress



Chris Collins
Member of Congress



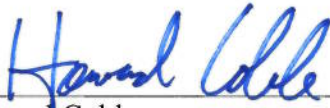
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Kristi Noem
Member of Congress



Jim Matheson
Member of Congress



Howard Coble
Member of Congress



Gloria Negrete McLeod
Member of Congress



Alan Nunnelee
Member of Congress



Dutch Ruppersberger
Member of Congress



Lamar Smith
Member of Congress



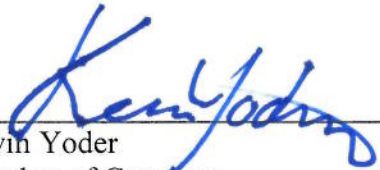
G.K. Butterfield
Member of Congress



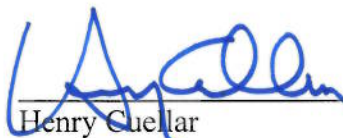
Renee Ellmers
Member of Congress



John Barrow
Member of Congress



Kevin Yoder
Member of Congress



Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress

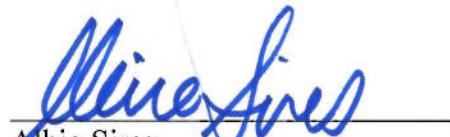


Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress

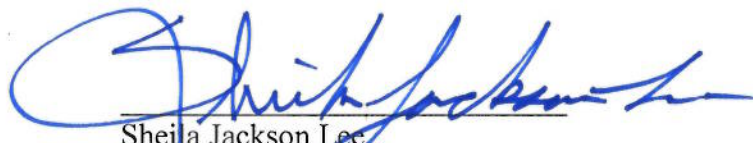


Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress


Jack Kingston
Member of Congress

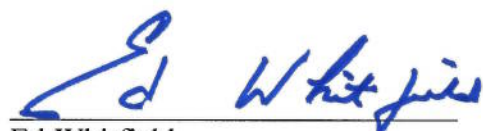

Albio Sires
Member of Congress


Mac Thornberry
Member of Congress

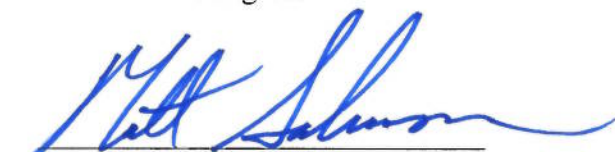

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress


Rodney Frelinghuysen
Member of Congress


Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress

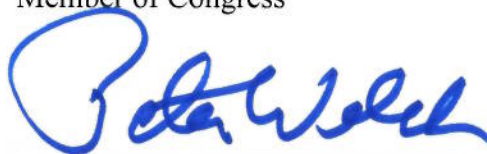

Ed Whitfield
Member of Congress


Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

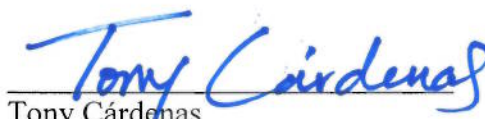

Matt Salmon
Member of Congress


Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress


Austin Scott
Member of Congress

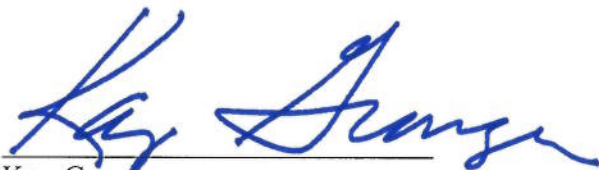

Peter Welch
Member of Congress


Rodney Davis
Member of Congress

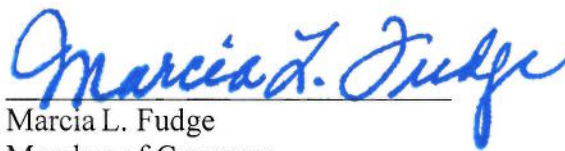

Tony Cardenas
Member of Congress


Pete Sessions
Member of Congress


André Carson
Member of Congress



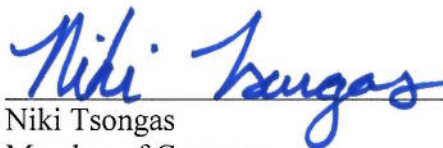
Kay Granger
Member of Congress



Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress



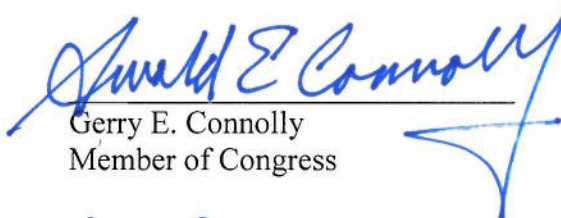
Robert B. Aderholt
Member of Congress



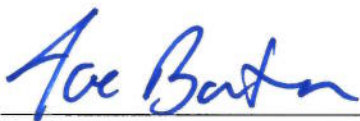
Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



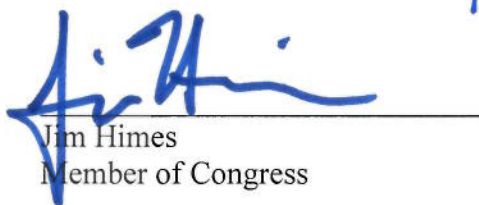
John Carter
Member of Congress



Gerry E. Connolly
Member of Congress



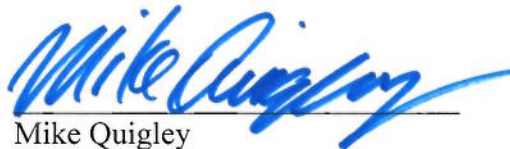
Joe Barton
Member of Congress



Jim Himes
Member of Congress



Marsha Blackburn
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Todd Rokita
Member of Congress



Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress



Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



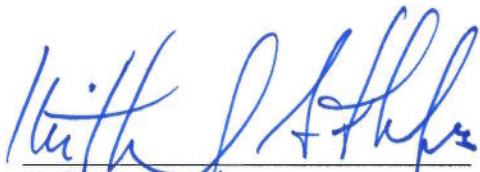
Jackie Speier
Member of Congress

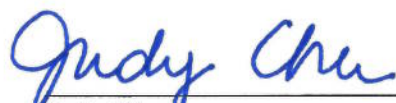


Jeb Hensarling
Member of Congress

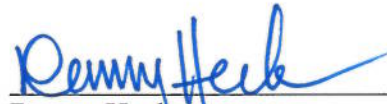


Ted Deutch
Member of Congress


Keith Rothfus
Member of Congress


Judy Chu
Member of Congress


Trent Franks
Member of Congress


Denny Heck
Member of Congress


Jaime Herrera Beutler
Member of Congress


James Langevin
Member of Congress


K. Michael Conaway
Member of Congress


Bill Owens
Member of Congress


Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress


Donald M. Payne Jr.
Member of Congress

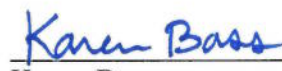

Leonard Lance
Member of Congress


Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress


John Kline
Member of Congress


Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress


Susan W. Brooks
Member of Congress


Karen Bass
Member of Congress



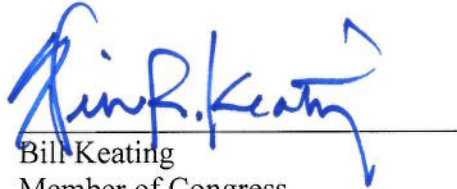
Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress



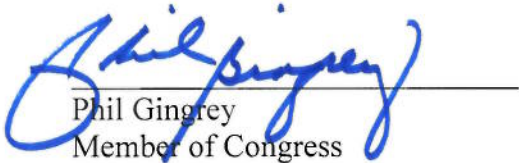
David Cicilline
Member of Congress



Michele Bachmann
Member of Congress



Bill Keating
Member of Congress



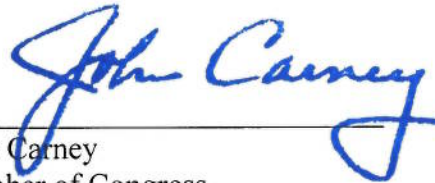
Phil Gingrey
Member of Congress



Federica Wilson
Member of Congress



S. Brett Guthrie
Member of Congress



John Carney
Member of Congress



Michael Rogers
Member of Congress



Robin Kelly
Member of Congress



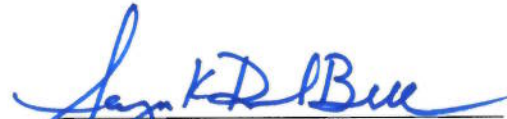
Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



Steve Chabot
Member of Congress



Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress

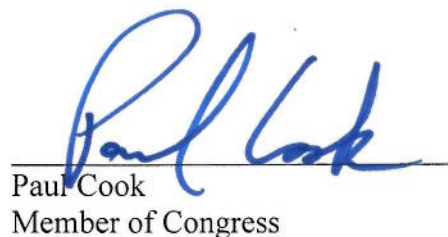


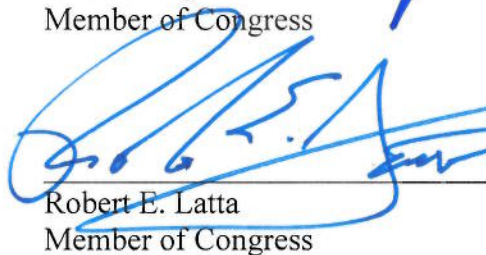
George Holding
Member of Congress



Jim Moran
Member of Congress


Bill Cassidy
Member of Congress


Paul Cook
Member of Congress

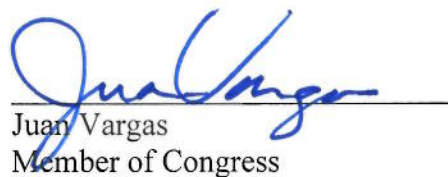

Robert E. Latta
Member of Congress

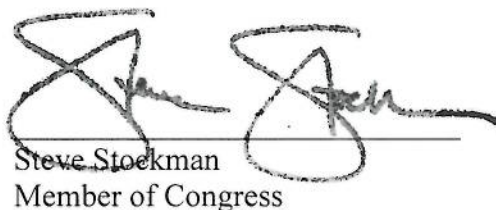

Alan Grayson
Member of Congress

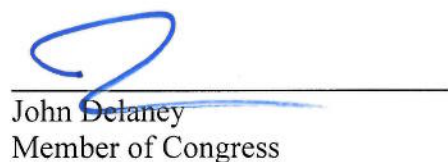

David "Phil" Roe
Member of Congress


Brad Schneider
Member of Congress


Trey Radel
Member of Congress


Juan Vargas
Member of Congress

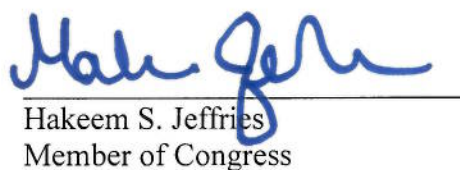

Steve Stockman
Member of Congress


John Delaney
Member of Congress

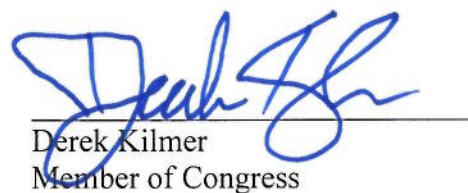

Blake Farenthold
Member of Congress


Elizabeth Esty
Member of Congress

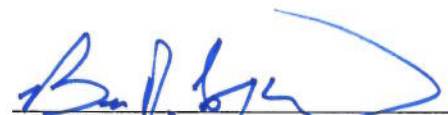

Steve King
Member of Congress


Hakeem S. Jeffries
Member of Congress


Tom Marino
Member of Congress


Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress


Andy Barr
Member of Congress


Ben Ray Lujan
Member of Congress


Sean P. Duffy
Member of Congress

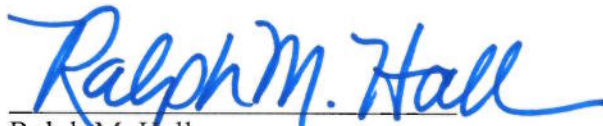

Dan Maffei
Member of Congress


Mike G. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress


Patrick E. Murphy
Member of Congress

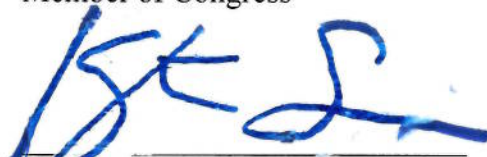

Bill Flores
Member of Congress


Gary Peters
Member of Congress


Ralph M. Hall
Member of Congress


Mark Pocan
Member of Congress

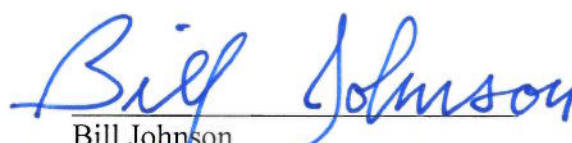

Marlin Stutzman
Member of Congress

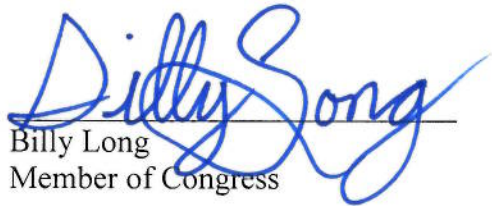

Kyristen Sinema
Member of Congress


Chris Gibson
Member of Congress


Marc Veasey
Member of Congress


Michael Grimm
Member of Congress


Bill Johnson
Member of Congress


Billy Long
Member of Congress


Patrick Meehan
Member of Congress


Steve Stivers
Member of Congress


Mo Brooks
Member of Congress


Tom Cotton
Member of Congress

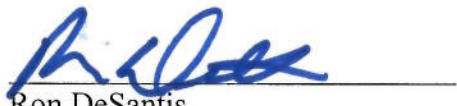

Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress


Randy Neugebauer
Member of Congress

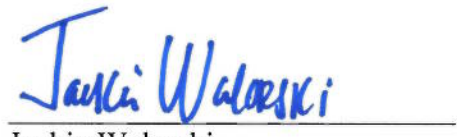

Luke Messer
Member of Congress

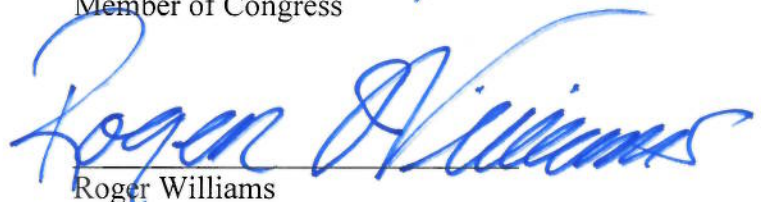

Randy Weber
Member of Congress

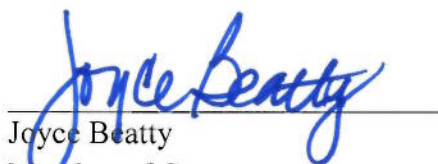

Doug Collins
Member of Congress


Ron DeSantis
Member of Congress


Ann Wagner
Member of Congress


Jackie Walorski
Member of Congress


Roger Williams
Member of Congress


Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress

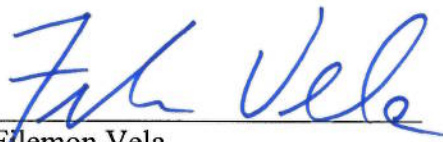

Scott Tipton
Member of Congress



John A. Culberson
Member of Congress



Pete P. Gallego
Member of Congress



Filemon Vela
Member of Congress

CC: John Kerry, Secretary of State

CC: Michael B. Froman, Deputy National Security Advisor