

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

May 1, 2024

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Defense  
House Appropriations Committee  
H-405, the Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Defense  
House Appropriations Committee  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

As you consider the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Department of Defense (DoD) Appropriations bill, we respectfully request that you maintain inclusion of stomach cancer among those cancers eligible for research funding under the Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program (PRCRP).

This year, it is estimated that roughly 26,890 Americans will learn they have stomach cancer, and 10,880 will die from the disease. Stomach cancer is a recalcitrant cancer, with an overall 5-year survival rate of 36 percent. At advanced stages, the five-year survival rate is just seven percent. The dismal statistics are largely because most patients present with advanced disease and tumor recurrence remains a significant challenge despite therapy. Despite marginal gains in stomach cancer survival rates over the past decade, incidence among young individuals, and particularly young women, continues to increase.

The Department of Veterans Affairs considers stomach cancer to be a service-connected malignancy for service members who experienced hazardous exposures, including ionizing radiation and other toxins. Further, U.S. military personnel who serve overseas have a higher encounter rate with the bacterium *Helicobacter pylori* (*H. pylori*) — a human carcinogen — which is a primary identified cause of stomach cancer.

PRCRP-supported projects are advancing the field of stomach cancer research, with the potential to make a tremendous difference in understanding this historically under-researched cancer. This includes research to understand the risk factors that contribute to stomach cancer and the disturbing upward trend in its incidence among young adults — a demographic that substantially overlaps with active-duty military personnel. For example, PRCRP researchers are working to better understand the process by which premalignant tumors turn into malignant tumors. Through this process, investigators may discover more effective ways to diagnose and treat premalignant tumors, preventing cancers from forming. PRCRP researchers are also close to

bringing to trial therapeutic agents that have the potential to suppress the growth of cancer tumors, offering a novel treatment for stomach cancer.

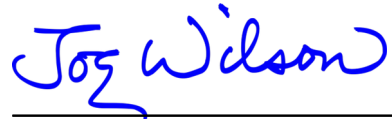
Funding for the PRCRP benefits military service members and their families and helps fulfill unmet clinical advances that can have a material impact on the lives of patients with stomach cancer. We respectfully request your support for maintaining stomach cancer's eligibility for research funding through the PRCRP and for continuing to grow the federal investment in the program.

Sincerely,



---

Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



---

Joe Wilson  
Member of Congress



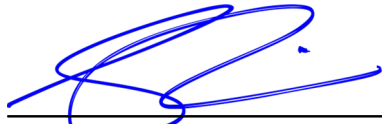
---

Angie Craig  
Member of Congress



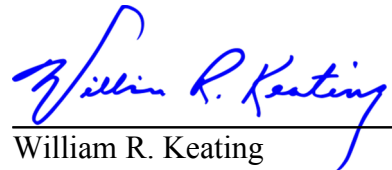
---

Andy Kim  
Member of Congress



---

Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress



---

William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



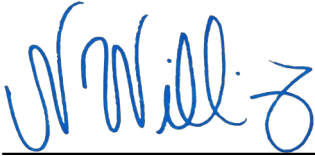
---

Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



---

Aaron Bean  
Member of Congress



---

Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



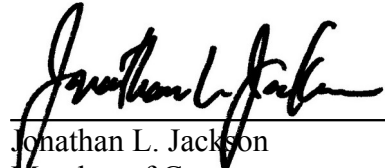
---

Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



---

Colin Z. Alfred  
Member of Congress



---

Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



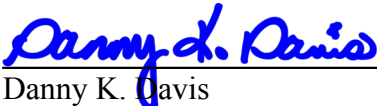
---

Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



---

Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress



---

Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress




---

Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



---

Andrew R. Garbarino  
Member of Congress



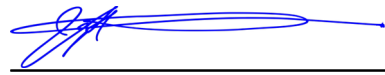
---

Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



---

Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



---

Jefferson Van Drew  
Member of Congress



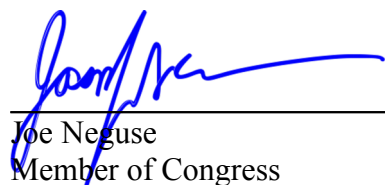
Chris Pappas  
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



Paul Tonko  
Member of Congress



Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



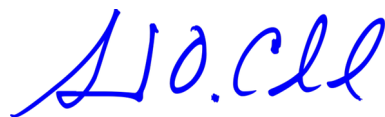
Lucy McBath  
Member of Congress



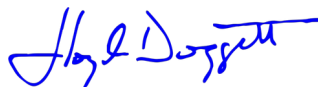
Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



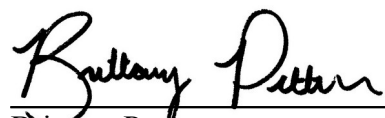
Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



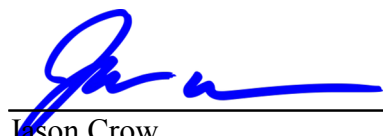
Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



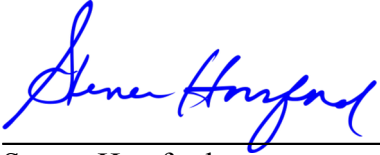
Brittany Petersen  
Member of Congress



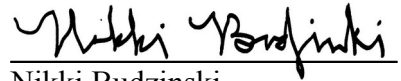
Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress



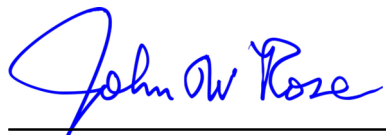
Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress



John Rose  
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



Katie Porter  
Member of Congress



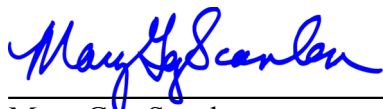
Nicole Malliotakis  
Member of Congress



Bill Foster  
Member of Congress

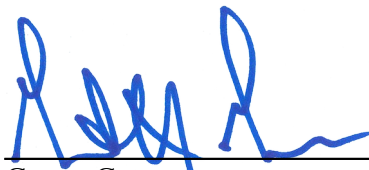


Nick LaLota  
Member of Congress



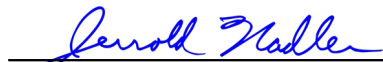
---

Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress



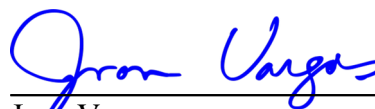
---

Garret Graves  
Member of Congress



---

Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



---

Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



---

Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



---

Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



---

Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress



---

Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress



---

Elissa Slotkin  
Member of Congress



---

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



---

Bill Posey  
Member of Congress



---

Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



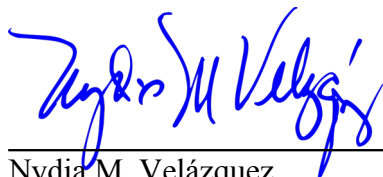
---

Christopher H. Smith  
Member of Congress



---

Troy A. Carter, Sr.  
Member of Congress



---

Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



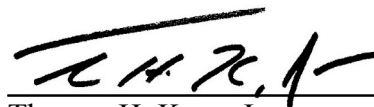
---

Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



---

Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



---

Thomas H. Kean, Jr.  
Member of Congress



---

Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



---

Daniel T. Kildee  
Member of Congress



---

André Carson  
Member of Congress



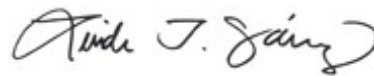
---

Jake Auchincloss  
Member of Congress



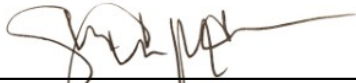
---

Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress



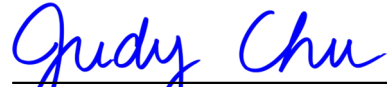
---

Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



---

Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress



---

Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



---

Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



---

Chris Deluzio  
Member of Congress



---

Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress



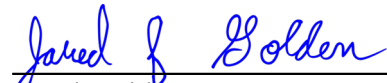
---

Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



---

Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



---

Jared Golden  
Member of Congress



---

Jen A. Higgins  
Member of Congress



---

Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.  
Member of Congress



---

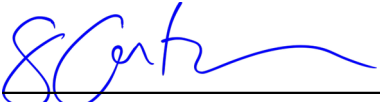
Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



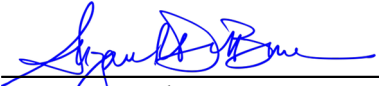
---

Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress

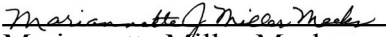




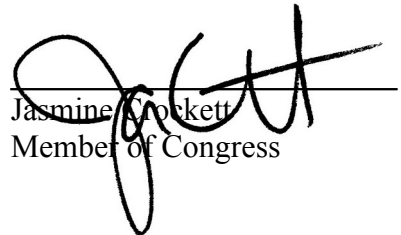
Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



Mariannette Miller-Meeks,  
M.D.  
Member of Congress



Jasmine Crockett  
Member of Congress



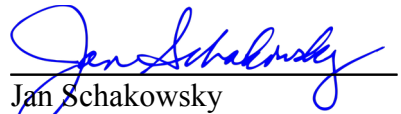
Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



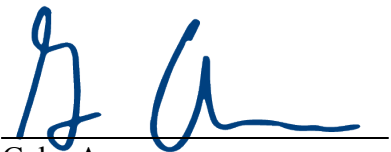
Abigail Davis Spanberger  
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress



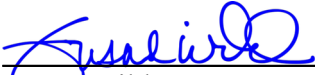
Gabe Amo  
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress



Scott DesJarlais, M.D.  
Member of Congress



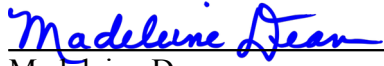
---

Susan Wild  
Member of Congress



---

Neal P. Dunn, M.D.  
Member of Congress



---

Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress



---

Jared Moskowitz  
Member of Congress



---

Donald G. Davis  
Member of Congress



---

Randy Feenstra  
Member of Congress



---

Patrick K. Ryan  
Member of Congress



---

Pete Stauber  
Member of Congress



---

Mikie Sherrill  
Member of Congress



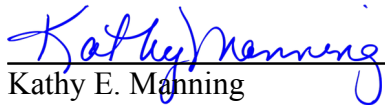
---

Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



---

Robert J. Menendez  
Member of Congress



---

Kathy E. Manning  
Member of Congress



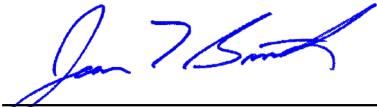
---

Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



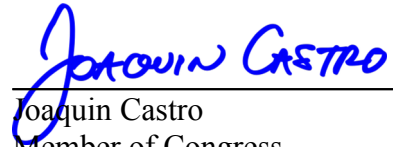
---

Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



---

Jason Smith  
Member of Congress



---

Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



---

Frank D. Lucas  
Member of Congress



---

John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



---

Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress