

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 16, 2018

Chairman Hal Rogers
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs
Room HT-2, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Nita Lowey
Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Lowey:

As you consider the Fiscal Year 2019 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations bill, we write to request a continuation of critical and timely support for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (Global Fund). Your past leadership has been instrumental in guaranteeing that these programs are robustly funded. We look to you again this year as PEPFAR and the Global Fund work in collaboration towards accelerating the end of these diseases.

This year marks the 15th anniversary of the PEPFAR program, a milestone deserving of celebration and renewed bipartisan commitment. U.S. leadership, through PEPFAR, bilateral partnerships, and with multilateral investments in the Global Fund, has been transformative in fighting the HIV/AIDS epidemic. PEPFAR has supported life-saving antiretroviral treatments for more than 13.3 million men, women and children—a more than fivefold increase since the beginning of 2009. Since the program's inception, nearly 2 million HIV-free babies have been born to HIV-infected mothers through PEPFAR-supported initiatives. These investments and efforts have also enabled countries to better the overall health of their citizens. For example, during the Ebola outbreak in West Africa countries supported by PEPFAR were better prepared to respond to the deadly disease.

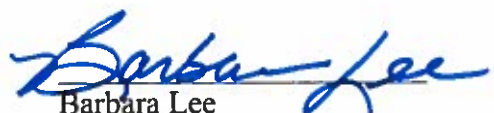
The Global Fund has also continued to scale-up its HIV/AIDS programs. As of mid-2016, initiatives financed by the Global Fund have supported treatment for 11 million people living with HIV/AIDS. The Global Fund is better positioned than ever to help accelerate progress on HIV/AIDS, as well as contain tuberculosis and malaria. Historically, for every \$1 invested by the United States, \$2 has been committed by other governments around the world, and additional resources are contributed by private sector partners. Such a return on investment guarantees that we present a truly international front in the fight against these diseases of poverty and that the burden of responding to these diseases is not shouldered by American taxpayers alone.

Continued U.S. leadership in and support for strategic partnerships with developing countries to control tuberculosis is essential. Tuberculosis has now become the most deadly infectious disease globally and is responsible for infecting over 10 million people a year. These efforts serve to promote global health and development goals that empower countries to build their own programs to support the societal needs of their people and build more stable communities, while also enhancing economic and diplomatic partnerships with the United States.

The research and development work on an AIDS vaccine continues to yield important scientific breakthroughs. The work being done in the United States has positioned our nation as the global leader in this field and moved us closer to a long awaited cure. We ask that you continue our national commitment to these efforts in Fiscal Year 2019 and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration of our request and for your ongoing leadership in fighting global HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria around the world. We are on track to achieve an AIDS-free generation and we count on your support to build on our success.

Sincerely,

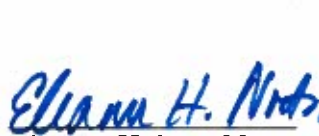

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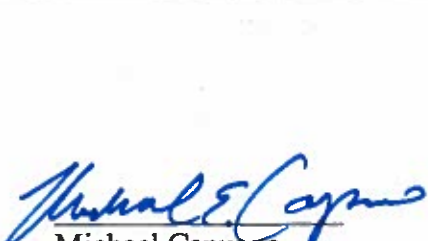

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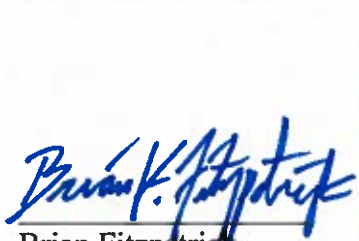

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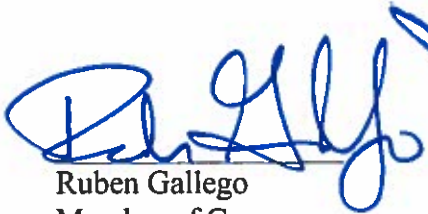

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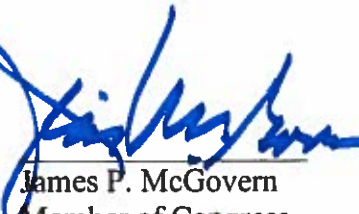

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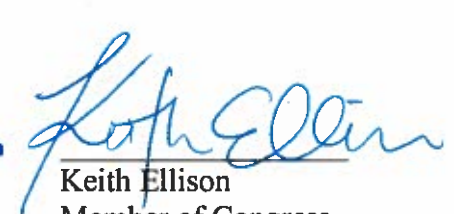

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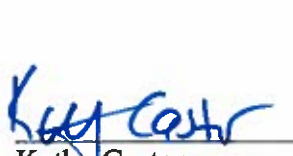

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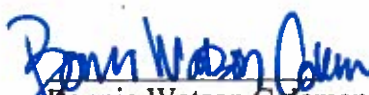

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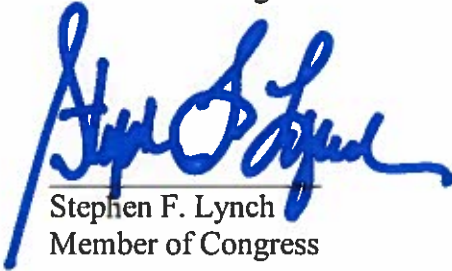
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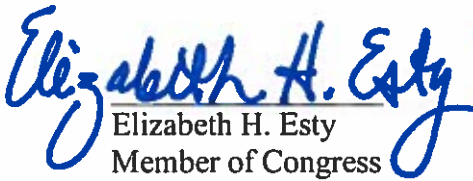
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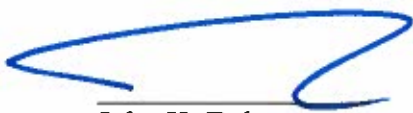
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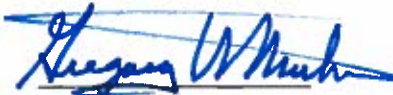
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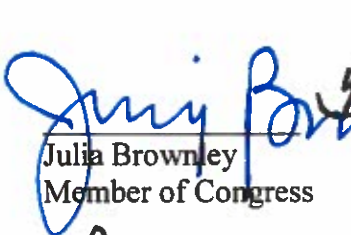
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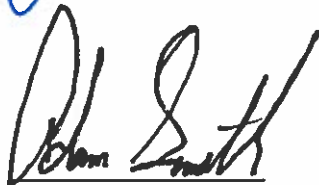
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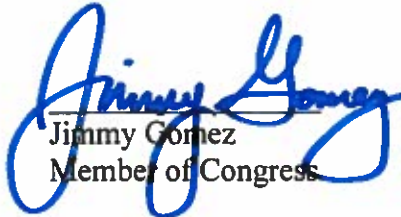
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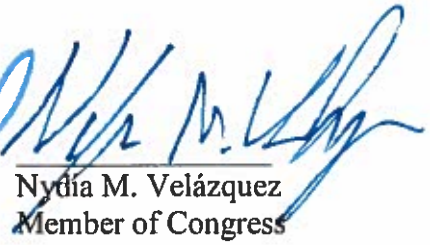
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