

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

July 27, 2011

Dear Mr. President:

As members of the House of Representatives, we support your continued efforts to ensure that intellectual property standards in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (“TPP”) trade agreement are consistent with U.S. law, protect U.S. interests and sustain and help grow U.S. jobs. Studies show that intellectual property-intensive industries employ more than 19 million workers, create higher paying jobs across all skill levels, and support more than 60% of total U.S. exports. As you stated previously, now more than ever, America’s ability to create jobs here at home depends on our ability to export goods and services to the world.

Critical to increasing U.S. companies’ ability to export and contribute to U.S. GDP growth is ensuring that our government does all it can to help provide a level playing field for U.S. companies globally and advocate for intellectual property rights that provide certainty for America’s innovative companies in the biosciences and other sectors. Setting strong standards allows our companies to secure the capital investments needed to generate tomorrow’s new treatments and potential cures and make them available to patients around the world.

As you know, the U.S. has a knowledge-based economy that is the envy of the world, and much of our dominance can be traced to deliberate policies to foster growth in this sector of the economy. The United States Trade Representative should ensure that the TPP agreement respects strong intellectual property standards for all sectors, especially the intellectual property-intensive sectors critical to the success of the American economy and our nation’s global competitiveness.

We commend your commitment to promoting innovation and ensuring that the U.S. remains globally competitive. In the course of the TPP negotiations on intellectual property rights issues, we urge you to support current U.S. law on biologics, which provides for 12 years of protection. The U.S.-led biopharmaceutical industry would be disadvantaged if the U.S. does not ensure consistency with U.S. law as part of the TPP, because foreign countries do not provide the same type of protection rules. The current protections for biologic drugs were debated extensively and received strong bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate. This provision is critical to keeping and expanding high-value U.S. jobs offered by America’s biotech sector and spurring the

R&D investment needed to seize extraordinary opportunities for medical advances to combat our most costly and challenging diseases. Continued R&D investment is needed to ensure that the cures and treatments the biotechnology sector delivers today will continue and allow more patients to access to these revolutionary therapies.

U.S. trade policy must continue to support sustaining and growing jobs here in the U.S. We look forward to continuing to work with you to craft an agreement that includes high standards of intellectual property protections for U.S. goods in all sectors.

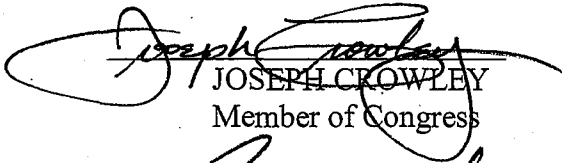
Sincerely,



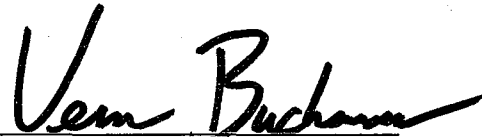
RON KIND
Member of Congress



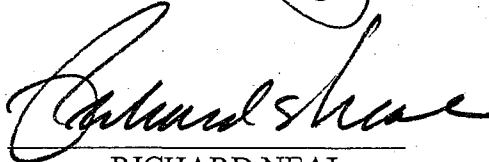
ERIK PAULSEN
Member of Congress



JOSEPH CROWLEY
Member of Congress



VERN BUCHANAN
Member of Congress



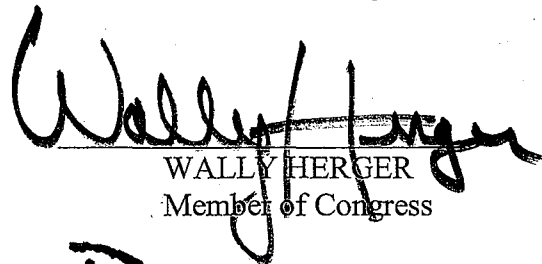
RICHARD NEAL
Member of Congress



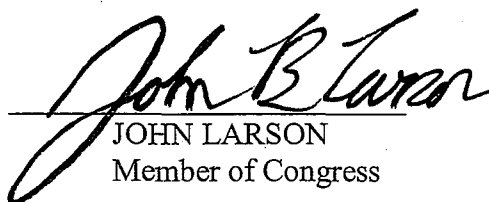
AARON SCHOCK
Member of Congress



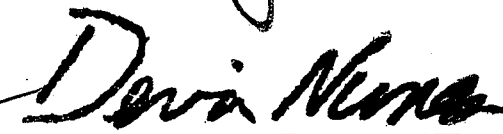
MIKE THOMPSON
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WALLY HERGER
Member of Congress



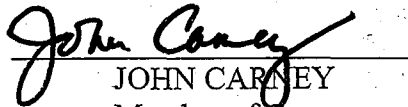
JOHN LARSON
Member of Congress

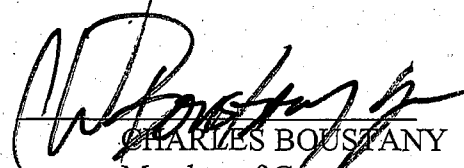


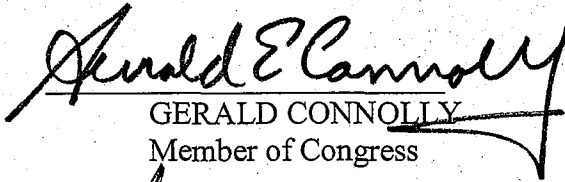
DEVIN NUNES
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BILL PASCRELL, JR.
Member of Congress

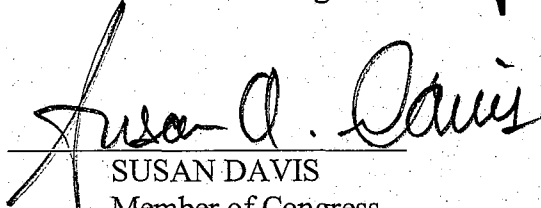

DAVE REICHERT
Member of Congress



JOHN CARNEY
Member of Congress

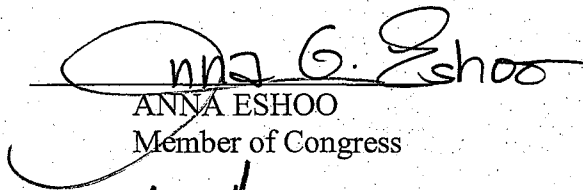

CHARLES BOASTANY
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GERALD CONNOLLY
Member of Congress

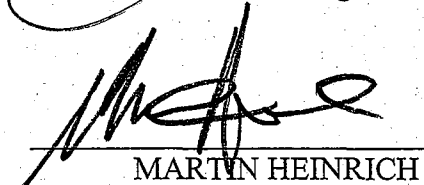

ADRIAN SMITH
Member of Congress

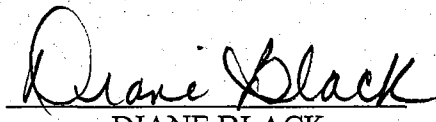

SUSAN DAVIS
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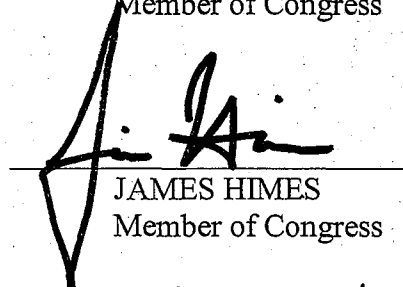

LYNN JENKINS
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ANNA ESHOO
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RICK BERG
Member of Congress

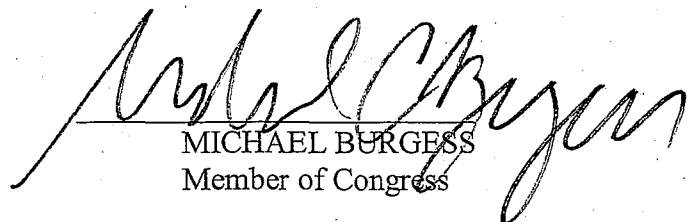

MARTIN HEINRICH
Member of Congress

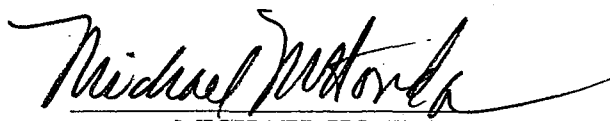

DIANE BLACK
Member of Congress


JAMES HIMES
Member of Congress

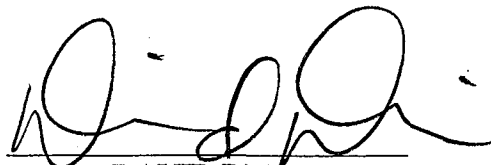

MARSHA BLACKBURN
Member of Congress


RUSH HOLT
Member of Congress


MICHAEL BURGESS
Member of Congress



MICHAEL HONDA
Member of Congress



DAVID DREIER
Member of Congress



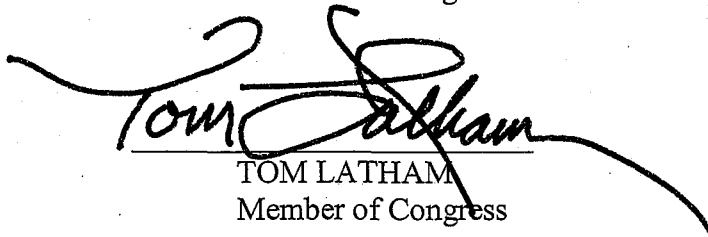
RICK LARSEN
Member of Congress



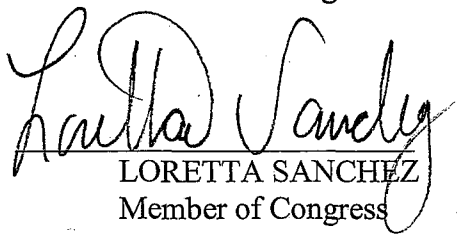
BRETT GUTHRIE
Member of Congress



GREGORY MEEKS
Member of Congress



TOM LATHAM
Member of Congress



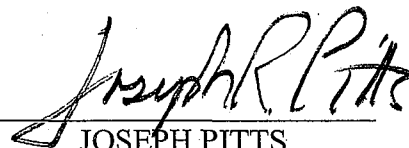
LORETTA SANCHEZ
Member of Congress



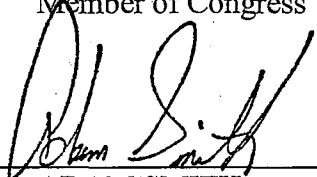
CATHY MCMORRIS
RODGERS
Member of Congress



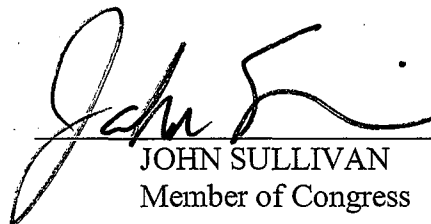
ALLYSON SCHWARTZ
Member of Congress



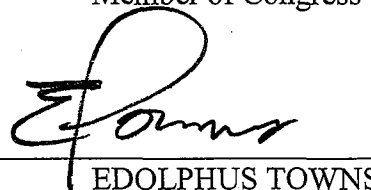
JOSEPH PITTS
Member of Congress



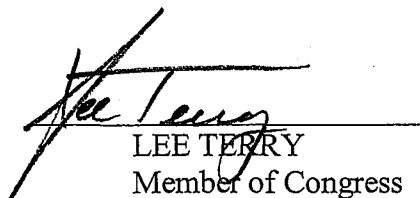
ADAM SMITH
Member of Congress



JOHN SULLIVAN
Member of Congress



EDOLPHUS TOWNS
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LEE TERRY
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