

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 13, 2017

The Honorable John McCain
Chairman
Senate Committee on Armed Services
228 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mac Thornberry
Chairman
House Committee on Armed Services
2216 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jack Reed
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Armed Services
228 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Adam Smith
Ranking Member
House Committee on Armed Services
2216 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen and Ranking Members:

As you work to finalize a conference agreement on the Fiscal Year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), we strongly urge you to uphold domestic procurement laws that promote U.S. manufacturing, support American workers, and ensure our warfighters are supplied with reliable mission-critical and safety-critical items. We ask that you reject several provisions unique to the Senate-passed version of the bill (H.R.2810) that would weaken existing Buy American provisions, erode our domestic manufacturing base, and threaten our national defense.

As members of Congress who represent U.S. manufacturing workers across a variety of sectors, we believe that a strong domestic supply and production chain capable of providing the very best American-made and sourced goods and equipment for our men and women in uniform is vital to our national security.

Of particular concern to us are provisions in H.R.2810 (Sections 651, 811, 812, 817, 853, 855, 863, and 865) that would affect the Berry, Kissell, and Specialty Metals Amendments. Since 1941, the Berry Amendment has ensured that the U.S. has a competitive and capable domestic industry equipped to supply a variety of goods and equipment for military use. The Kissell Amendment has served a similar function for the Department of Homeland Security since 2009. Since 1972, the Specialty Metals Amendment has ensured that a robust, secure, and high-quality metals manufacturing base can keep our aircraft flying, ships sailing, and armored vehicles rolling. The elimination or reduction of Berry, Kissell, Specialty Metals, and similar requirements will irreparably harm our domestic industrial base and send American taxpayer dollars to foreign countries to meet our military's needs.

We note that these provisions stand in opposition to the Trump administration's April 2017 "Presidential Executive Order on Buy American and Hire American" (E.O. 13788), and

subsequent guidance issued to federal agencies. In addition, the Trump administration raised objections to nearly all of these specific provisions in its September 7, 2017, Statement of Administrative Policy on the Senate NDAA.

We strongly encourage the conference committee to support American manufacturing jobs and recede to the House bill for each of the provisions cited above that undermine existing Buy American laws and regulations.

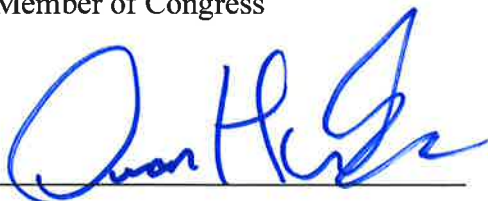
Sincerely,



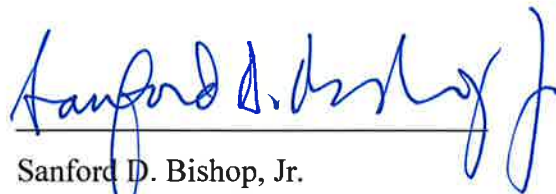
Bruce Poliquin
Member of Congress



Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



Duncan Hunter
Member of Congress



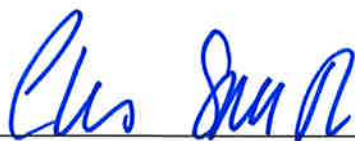
Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



Austin Scott
Member of Congress



Daniel Lipinski
Member of Congress



Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress



Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



Brian K. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



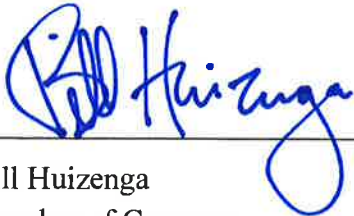
Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



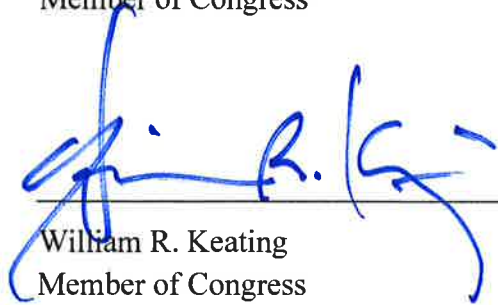
Trey Gowdy
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



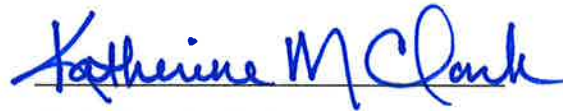
Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress



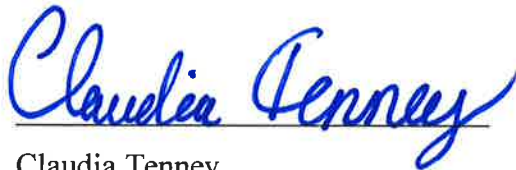
William R. Keating
Member of Congress



David Rouzer
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Katherine M. Clark
Member of Congress



Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress



Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress



Mike Bost
Member of Congress



G.K. Butterfield
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A. Drew Ferguson, IV., DMD
Member of Congress



Rosa L. DeLauro
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Jody Hice
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Richard M. Nolan
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Mo Brooks
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Chellie Pingree
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Steven M. Palazzo
Member of Congress



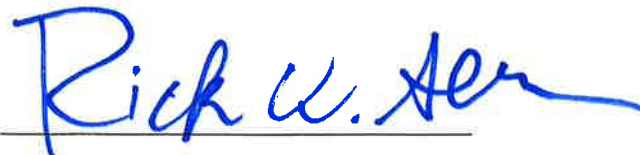
David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



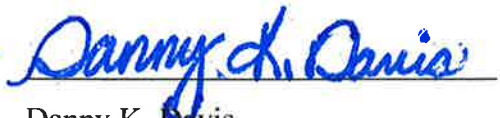
Steve Stivers
Member of Congress



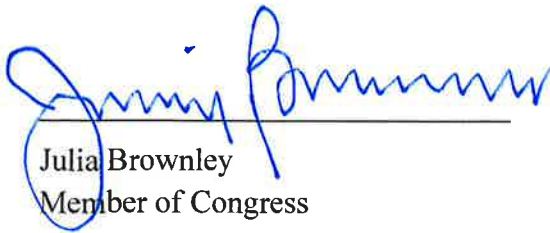
Jacky Rosen
Member of Congress



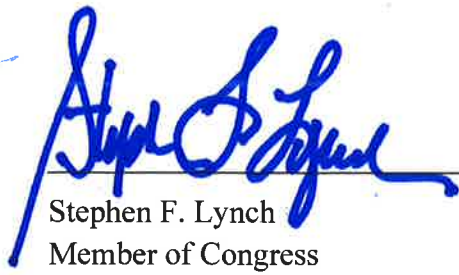
Rick W. Allen
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



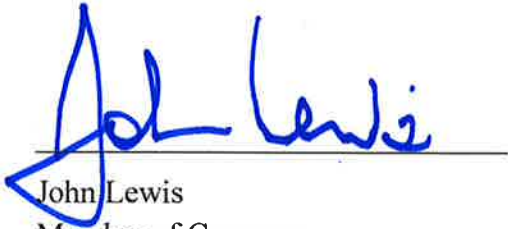
Stephen F. Lynch
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David E. Price
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Gene Green
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John Lewis
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Marcy Kaptur
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Raúl M. Grijalva
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