

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 8, 2017

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary
United States Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable James N. Mattis
Secretary
United States Department of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Secretaries Tillerson and Mattis:

We are writing to ask for your help in helping Americans stranded in the islands of the Caribbean following Hurricane Irma. Time is of the essence, as a new hurricane, may soon strike these same locations.

As you are no doubt aware, Hurricane Irma was a Category 5 storm when it slammed into the island of Barbuda. With up to 185 mile per hour sustained winds, it devastated that island. Barbuda's prime minister said the island is now "barely habitable." Irma's path of destruction continued through other islands such as Saint Martin and Saint Barthélemy.

We encourage you to expeditiously assist all the people now dealing with the aftermath of Irma; of course the most direct responsibility for our government are the Americans also stranded in these islands. Our constituents are asking for help. Such assistance is all the more important because of the scope of the devastation and the difficulty in coordinating relief efforts among so many different jurisdictions.

Additionally, another hurricane, Jose, may pass through some of these same locations soon. We urge you to rescue Americans before doing so is made all the more difficult by another storm; further we ask for an update on what you are doing and plan to do in this regard.

We look forward to your prompt response.


Sincerely,

Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress





Eliot Engel
Member of Congress

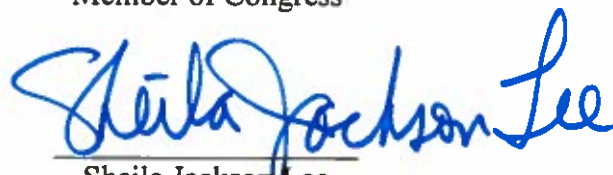

Stephanie Murphy
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Raul Ruiz
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Frank Pallone, Jr.
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Pramila Jayapal
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Sheila Jackson Lee
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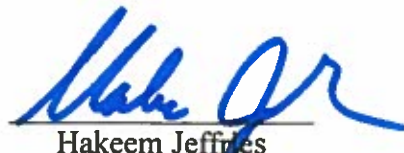

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David Scott
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Stephen Lynch
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Kyrsten Sinema
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Donald Norcross
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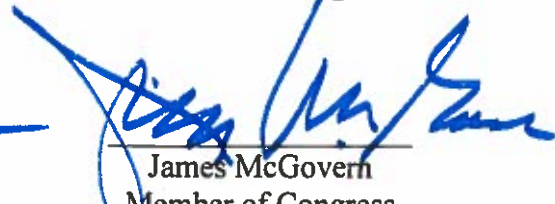

Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress



Al Lawson
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David Joyce
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Darren Soto
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Alcee Hastings
Member of Congress

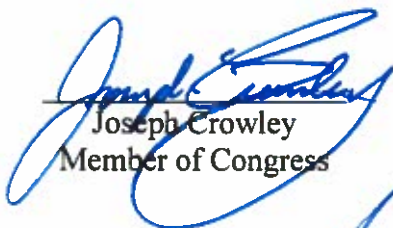

James McGovern
Member of Congress

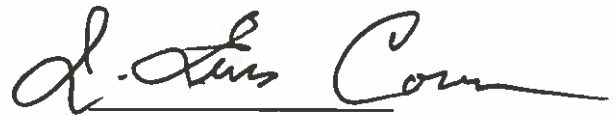

Dwight Evans
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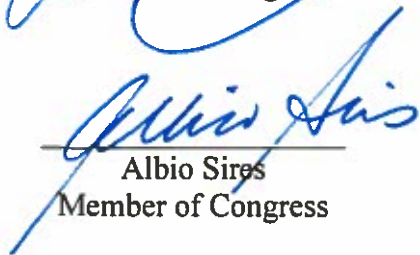

Sean Patrick Maloney
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Joseph Crowley
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Jose Luis Correa
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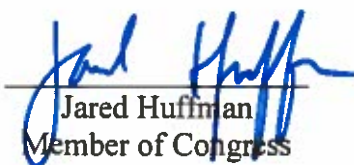

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Rodney Davis
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Ted Poe
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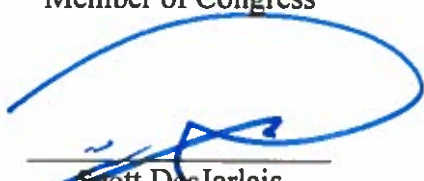
Kevin Yoder
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Kevin Cramer
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Darrell Issa
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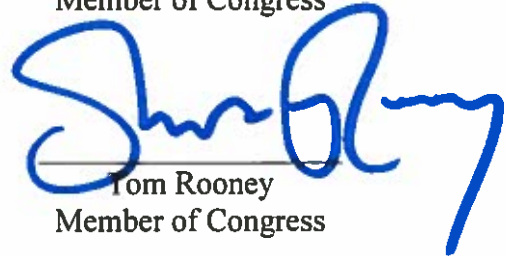
Walter B. Jones
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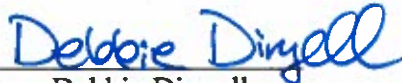
Richard Hudson
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Tom Rooney
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Debbie Dingell
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John Sarbanes
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Nita Lowey
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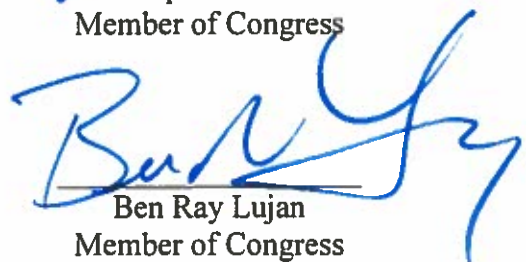
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Joaquin Castro
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Pete Aguilar
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Ben Ray Lujan
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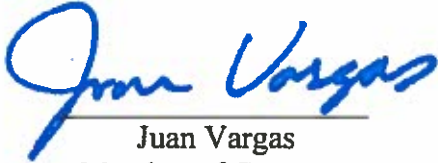
Sander Levin
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Tony Cárdenas
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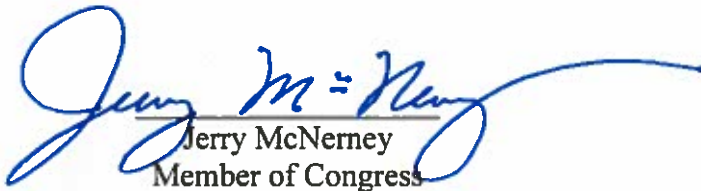
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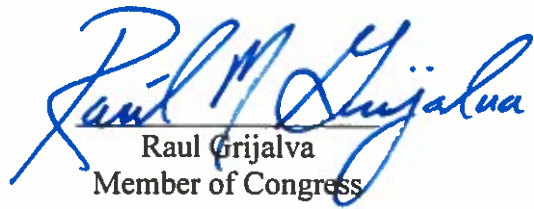
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Kathy Castor
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