

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 5, 2017

The Honorable Mike Simpson
Chairman
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
2362-B Rayburn House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Water
Development, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Kaptur:

We are writing to express our strong support of robust funding for the National Ignition Facility (NIF), located at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, under the National Nuclear Security Administration's (NNSA) Inertial Confinement Fusion and High Yield Campaign.

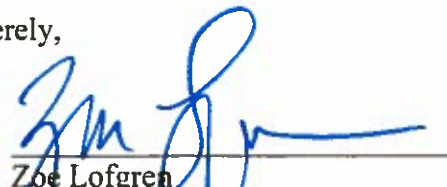
As you know, experimental data from NIF is a crucial component of the NNSA's Stockpile Stewardship Program. Furthermore, failing to provide stable and sufficient funding would have a negative impact on domestic fusion research at a critical juncture when major scientific breakthroughs are being achieved. Russia, China, and France have accelerated investments in this area to compete in inertial confinement fusion, but remain behind this premier U.S. facility. We must not cede American leadership, as this investment can help lead to the energy industry of the future.

To ensure the U.S. does not fall behind our competitors and continues to build upon the significant investments already made, it is essential that NIF receive robust funding. We look forward to working with you to maintain and build on our country's leadership in inertial confinement fusion research and development, necessary to maintain our nuclear stockpile and develop the energy of the future.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,


Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress


Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



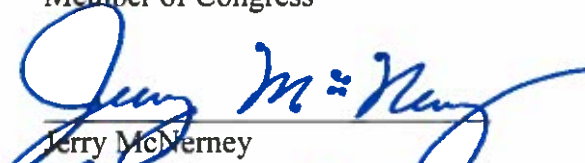
Mark Takano
Member of Congress



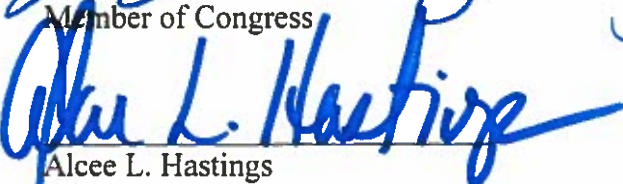
Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison
Member of Congress



Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress



Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Scott Peters
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Jackie Speier
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James R. Langevin
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



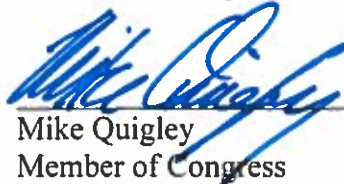
Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



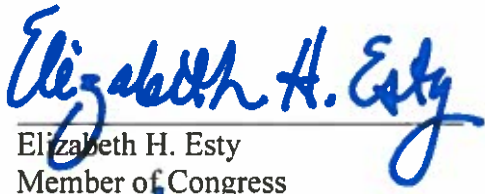
Albio Sires
Member of Congress

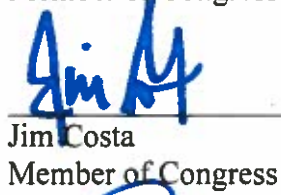


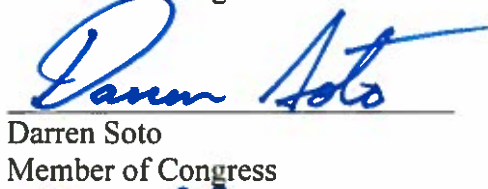
Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress

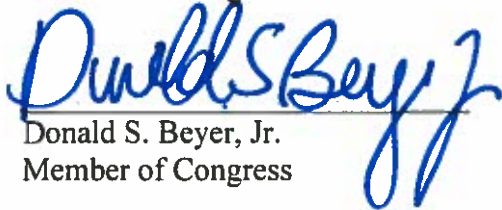


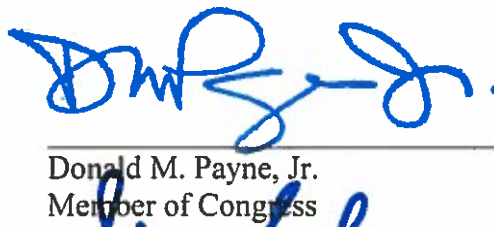
Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

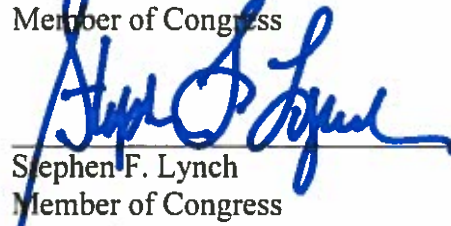

Elizabeth H. Esty
Member of Congress


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