

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 26, 2018

The Honorable David J. Kautter, Acting Commissioner
Internal Revenue Service
1111 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20224

The Honorable Caroline C. Hunter, Chair
Federal Election Commission
1050 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20463

The Honorable Ellen L. Weintraub, Vice Chair
Federal Election Commission
1050 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20463

Dear Acting Commissioner Kautter, Chair Hunter, and Vice Chair Weintraub,

On June 14th New York State Attorney General Barbara Underwood filed a civil suit against President Donald Trump for persistently misusing funds from the Donald J. Trump Foundation to benefit himself and his businesses and recommended the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the Federal Election Commission (FEC) investigate the President and his foundation. As Members of Congress who support transparency and accountability, we also urge you to investigate this matter to determine whether the President broke the law and abused our tax system, and to refer the matter to the Department of Justice for criminal prosecution if the evidence warrants.

Attorney General Underwood's civil suit alleges that as the head of the Trump Foundation, President Trump engaged in "persistently illegal conduct," using the tax-exempt foundation to benefit himself, his businesses, and his presidential campaign. The President is also accused of signing four false tax returns claiming the Foundation used none of its funds to benefit himself or his businesses. Because the allegations pertain to tax fraud, federal investigators would have the authority to obtain the President's tax returns and make them publicly available for the first time.

Tax returns contain vital information such as whether the candidate paid taxes; what they own; how much they've borrowed and from whom; whether they've made charitable donations; and whether they've taken advantage of tax loopholes or offshore tax shelters. They are also highly instructive as to any conflicts of interest. The current President has 564 financial positions in companies located in the U.S. and around the world according to Federal Election Commission forms, making him more susceptible to conflicts of interest than any president in our history.

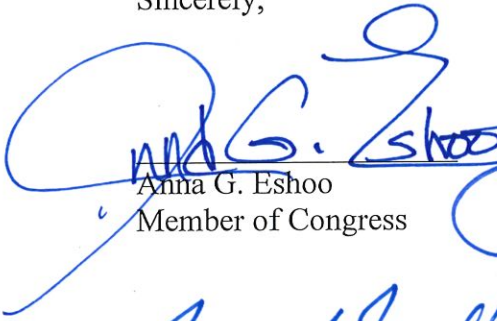
We have supported congressional efforts to obtain President Trump's tax returns to examine them for conflicts of interest and tax compliance. Due to inaction from the congressional

majority, his financial interests and tax compliance remain obscured. We implore you to use your authority to examine whether the President is following our laws and tax code.

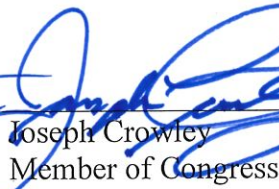
The IRS and the FEC have an obligation to investigate alleged violations of the tax code and campaign finance law, respectively, and we urge you to promptly begin these investigations.

Thank you in advance for your timely response to our request.

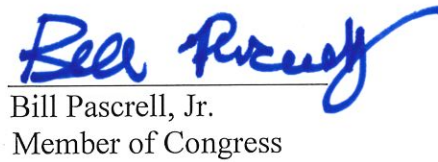
Sincerely,



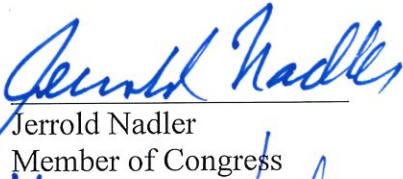
Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress



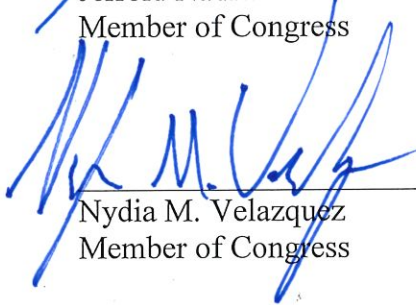
Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



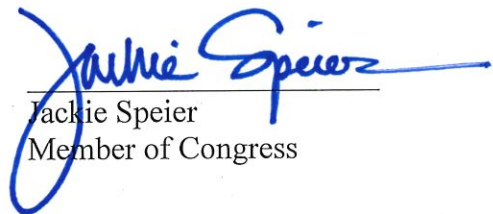
Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velazquez
Member of Congress



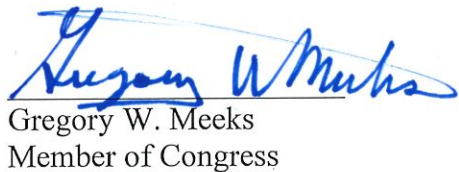
Jackie Speier
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



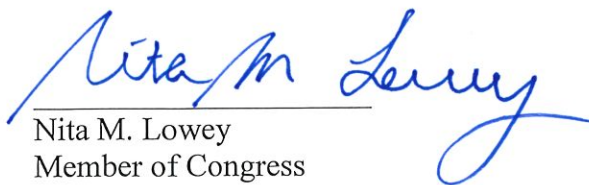
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress



Grace Meng
Member of Congress



Nita M. Lowey
Member of Congress



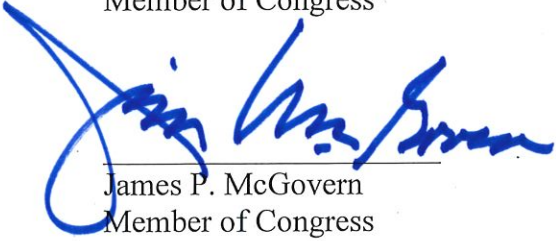
Hakeem Jeffries
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



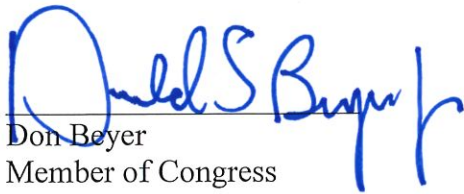
Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



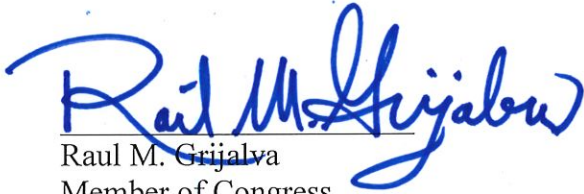
Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



Don Beyer
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



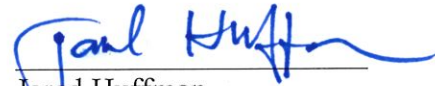
Raul M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



David Price
Member of Congress




Dina Titus
Member of Congress



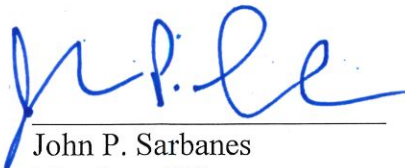
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



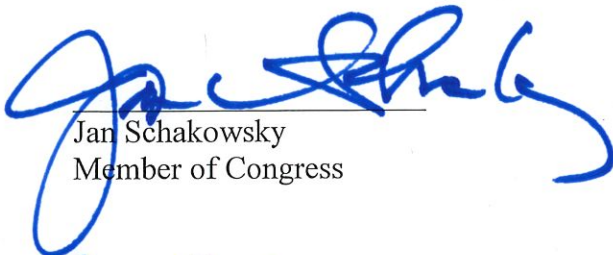
Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



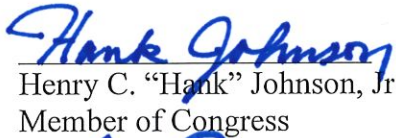
Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



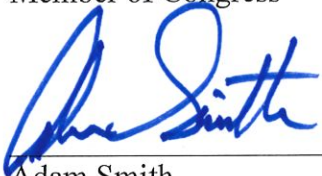
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



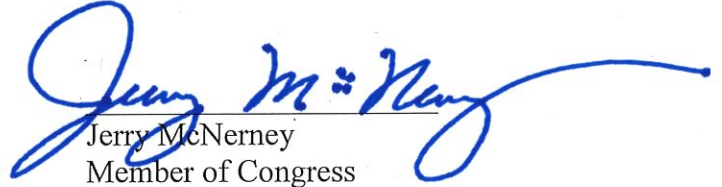
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Charlie Crist
Member of Congress



Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



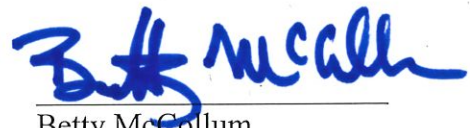
Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Ted Lieu
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



Donald Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress



Norma Torres
Member of Congress



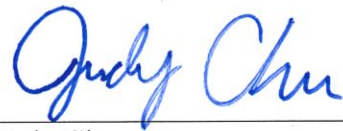
Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress



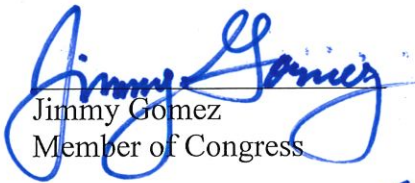
Timothy J. Walz
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



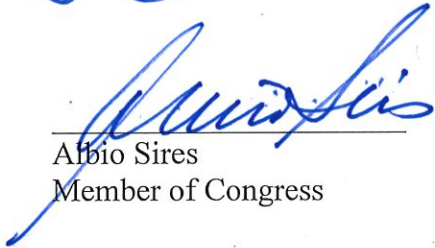
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



Luis V. Gutierrez
Member of Congress



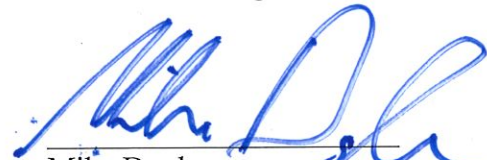
Albio Sires
Member of Congress



Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress




Karen Bass
Member of Congress



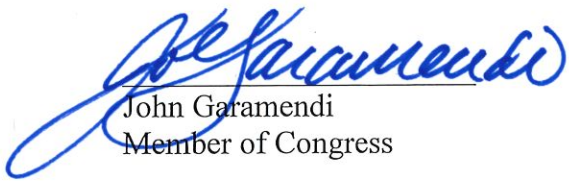
Mike Doyle
Member of Congress



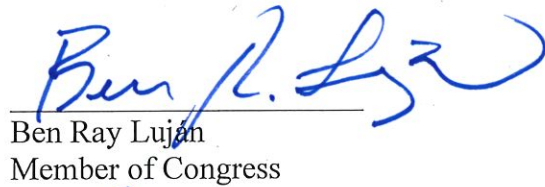
Diana DeGette
Member of Congress




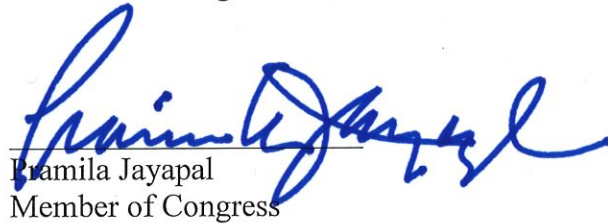
Carol Shea-Porter
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress

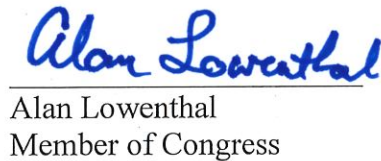

Sander M. Levin
Member of Congress


Ben Ray Lujan
Member of Congress

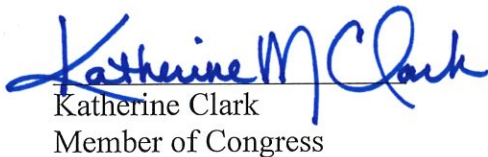

Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress

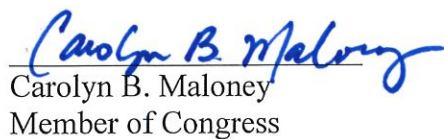

Nanette Barragan
Member of Congress


Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress

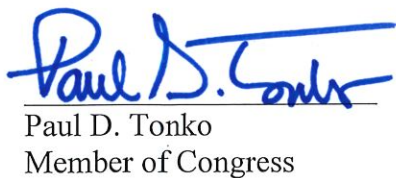

Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress

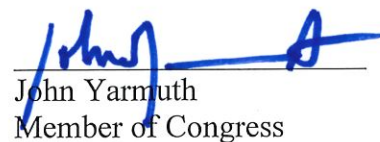

Katherine Clark
Member of Congress


Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress


Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress


Ted Deutch
Member of Congress


Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress


John Yarmuth
Member of Congress



Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



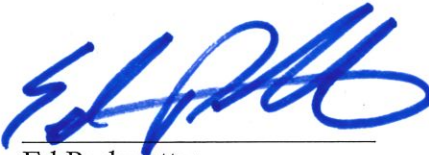
Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



Rick Nolan
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman
Member of Congress



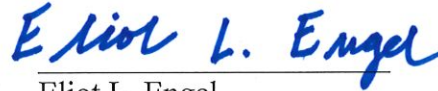
Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress



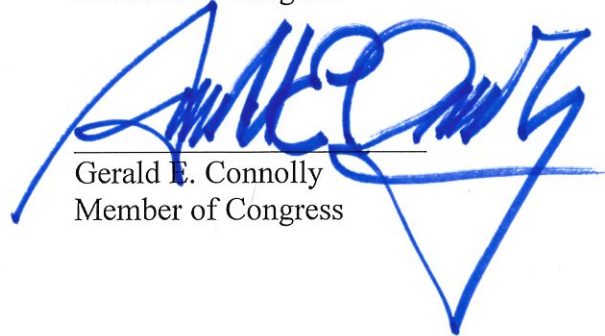
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



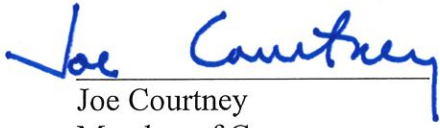
Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress




Alma S. Adams
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



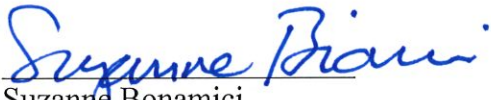
Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress



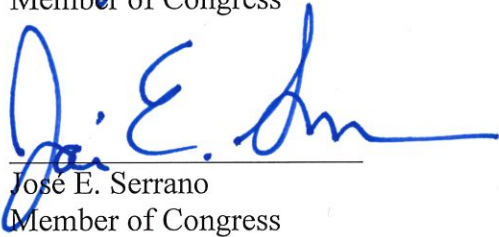
Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress



José E. Serrano
Member of Congress



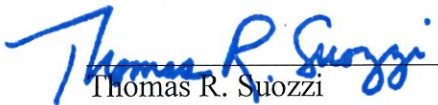
John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Barbara D. Underwood, Attorney General of New York State