Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 1, 2006

The Honorable Jim Nussle
Chairman
Committee on the Budget
309 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Nussle,

As you work to finalize the Fiscal Year 2007 House Budget Resolution, we request that you preserve funding for the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program. Despite being appropriated at $630.4 million in FY 2006, the President's FY07 Budget eliminates CSBG funding.

The CSBG program is vital to the efforts of Community Action Agencies (CAAs) nationwide to help the growing population in poverty. The flexible funding from the CSBG program allows CAAs to provide many tailored services and initiatives that not only help low-income families and individuals become self-sufficient and economically independent, but also strengthen low-income communities.

The successes of the CSBG program include 2,011,940 new service opportunities created for low-income families like affordable and expanded public and private transportation, medical care, child care, community centers and youth programs; improved housing for 22,706 low-income families; increased annual income for 53,689 participants; education or job training for 109,127 participants; involvement in community advocacy for 133,431 low income individuals; and continued independent living for 783,005 low-income senior citizens and 28,260 disabled or medically-challenged individuals.

Accordingly, we strongly urge you to adequately fund the CSBG program. We understand the challenges Congress faces and appreciate the difficult task of developing a budget that meets our shared objectives of fiscal discipline. We would like to thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK
Member of Congress

JOHN F. TIERNEY
Member of Congress

PHIL ENGLISH
Member of Congress

CHRIS VAN HOLLEN
Member of Congress

CHARLES DENT
Member of Congress

ROB SIMMONS
Member of Congress

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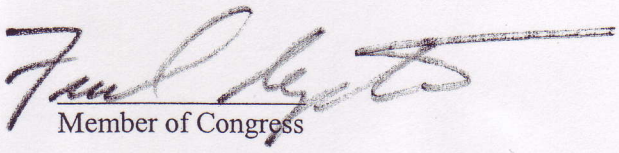
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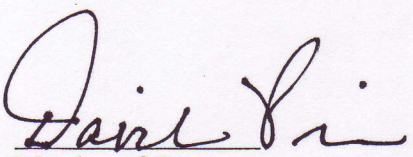
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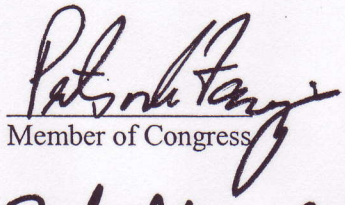
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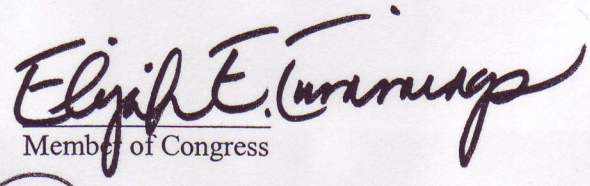
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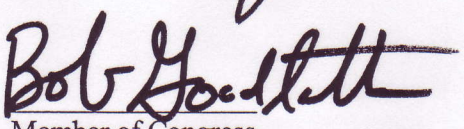
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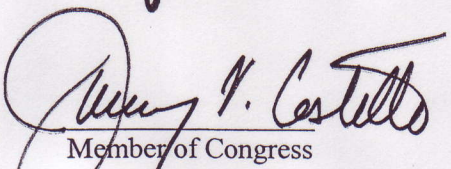
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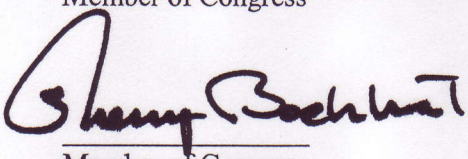
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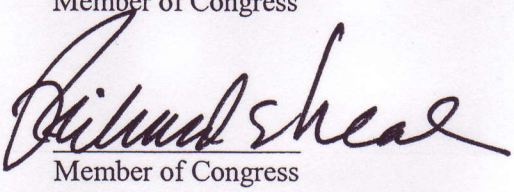
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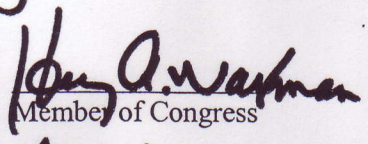
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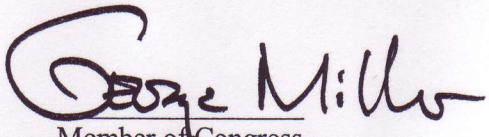
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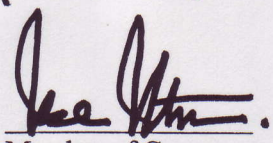
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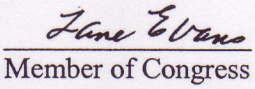
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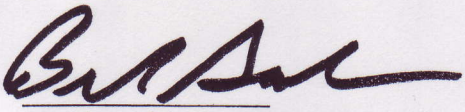
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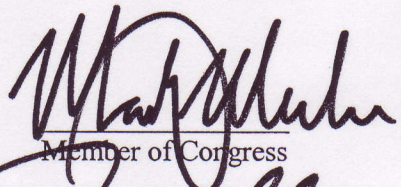
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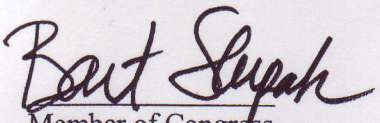
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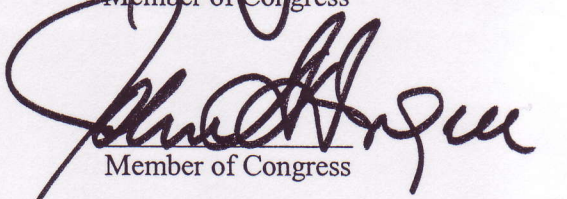
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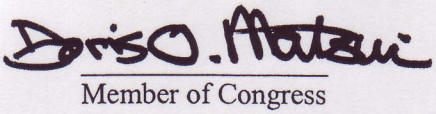
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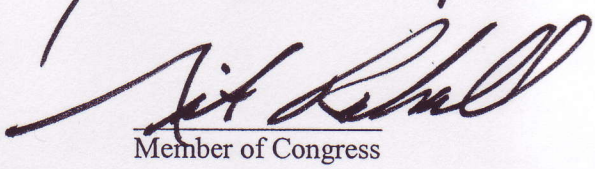
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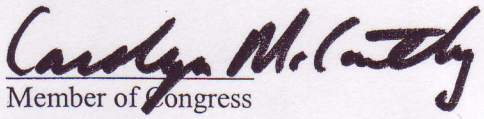
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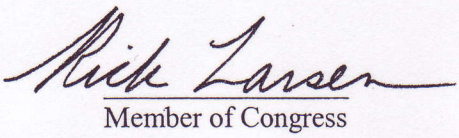
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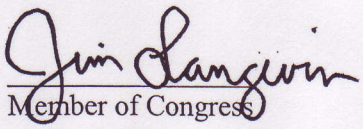
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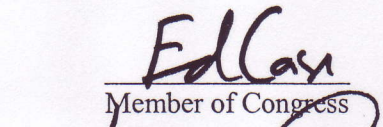
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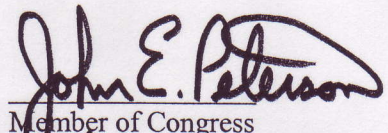
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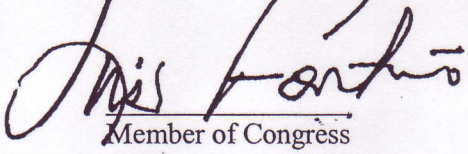
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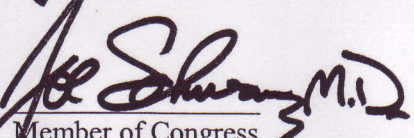
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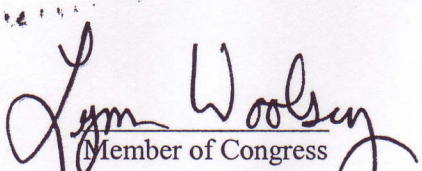
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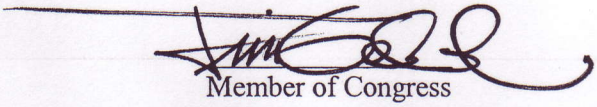
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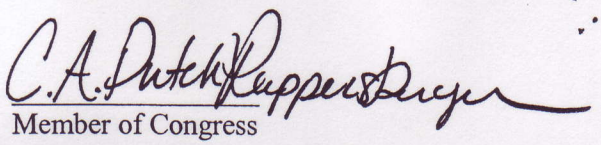
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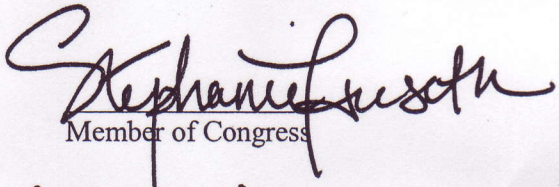
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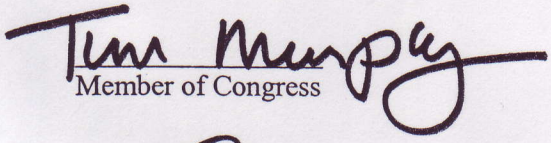
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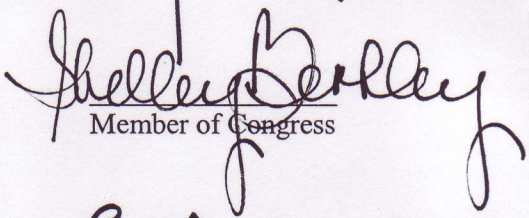
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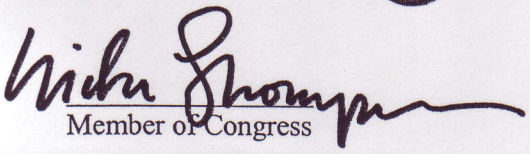
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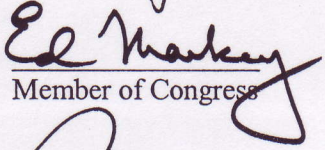
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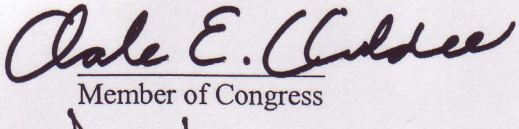
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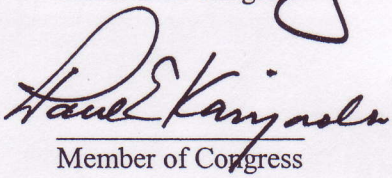
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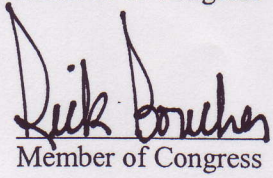
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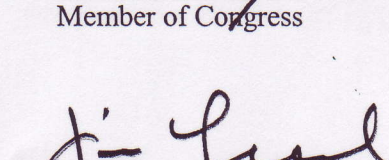
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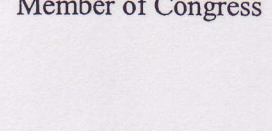
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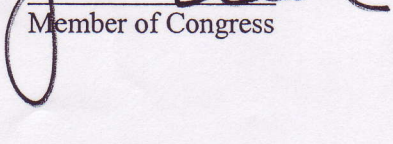
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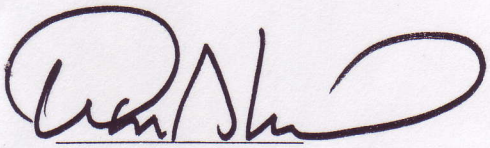
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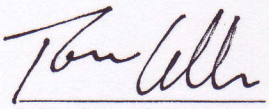
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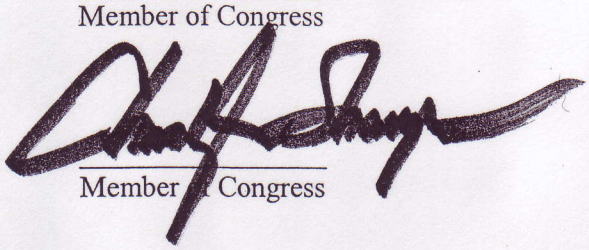
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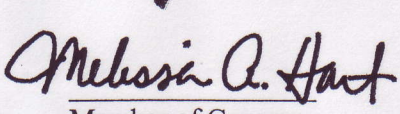
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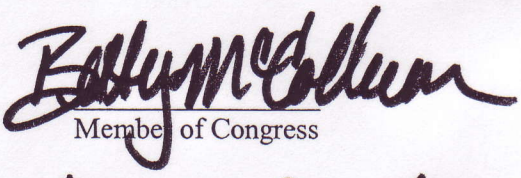
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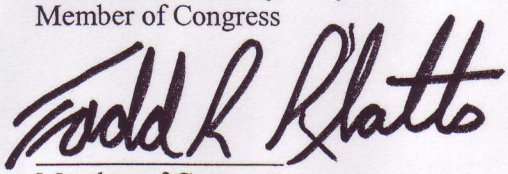
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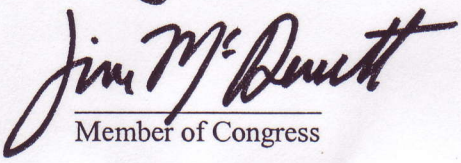
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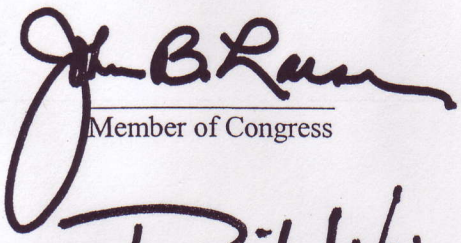
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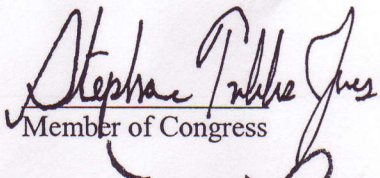
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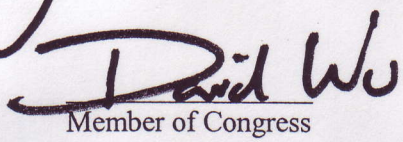
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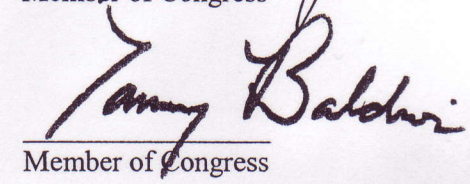
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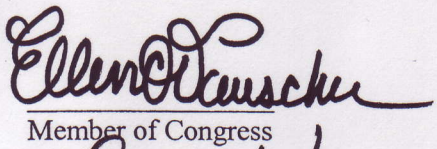
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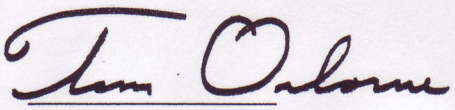
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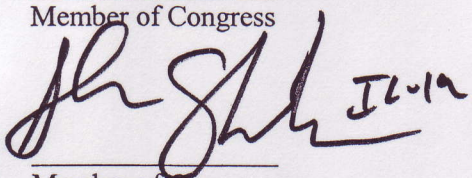
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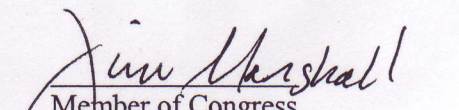
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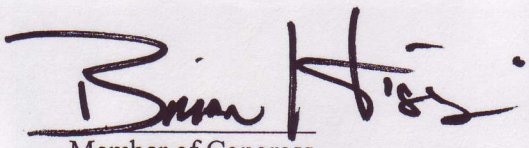
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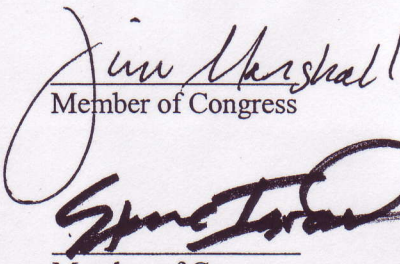
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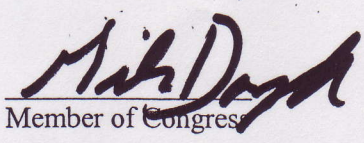
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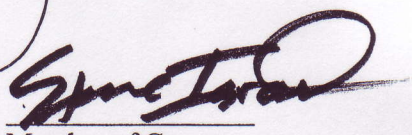
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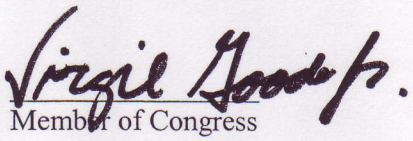
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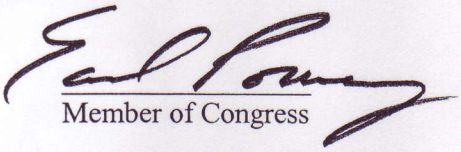
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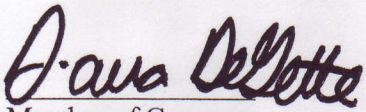
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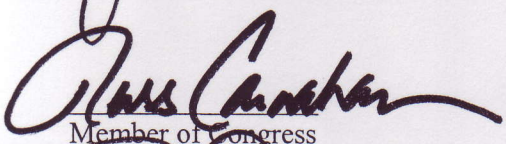
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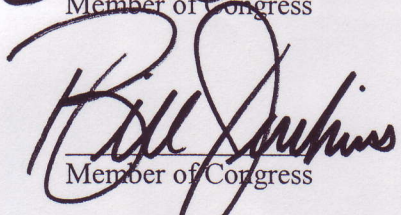
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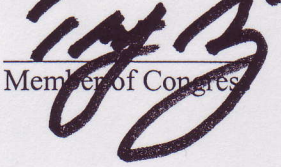
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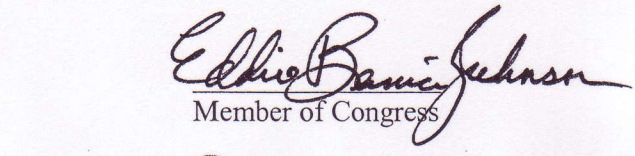
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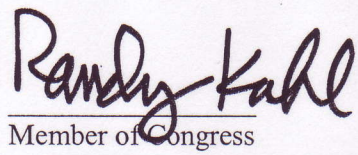
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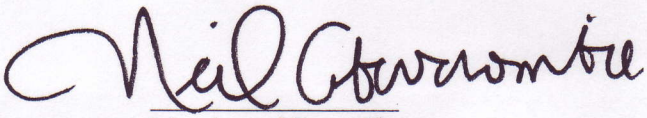
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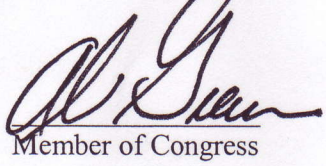
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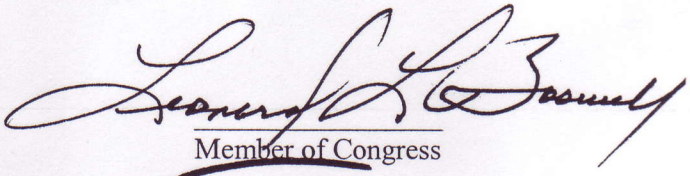
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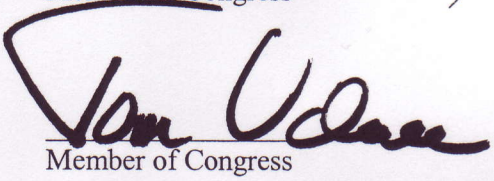
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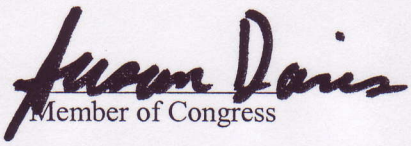
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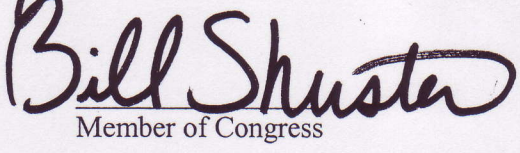
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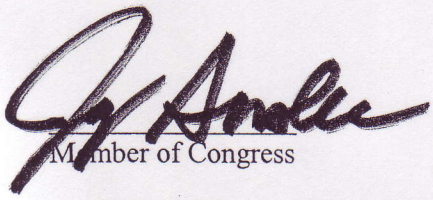
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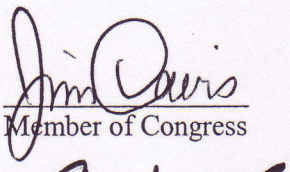
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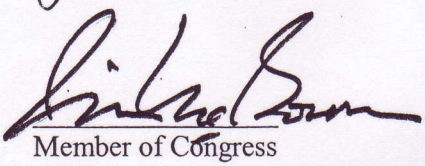
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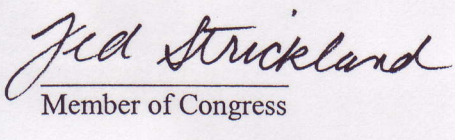
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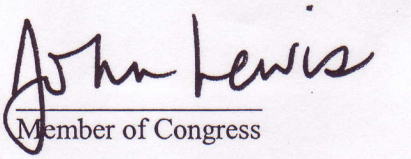
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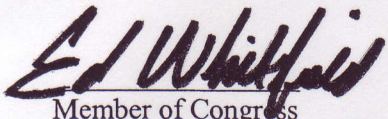
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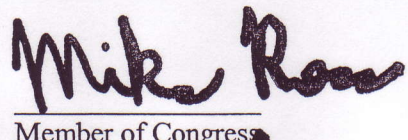
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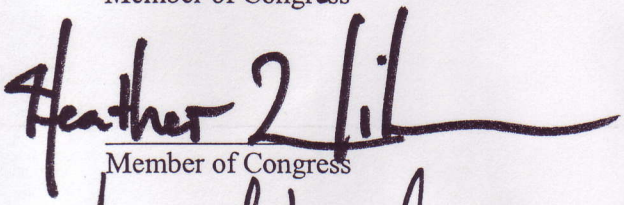
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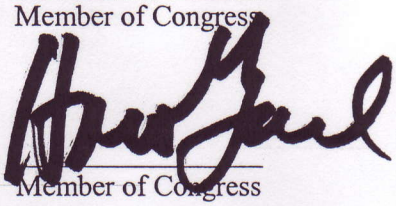
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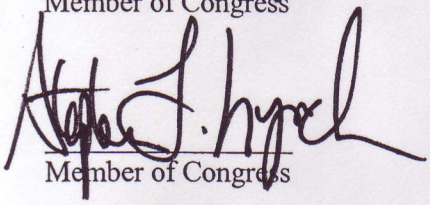
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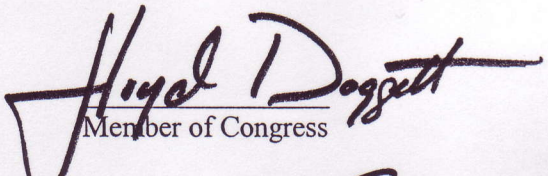
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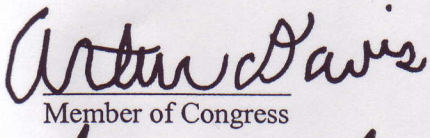
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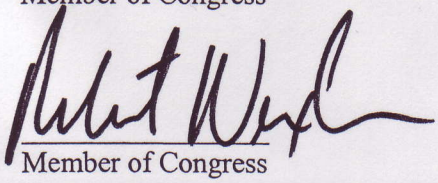
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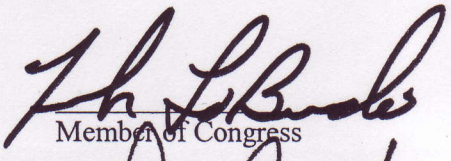
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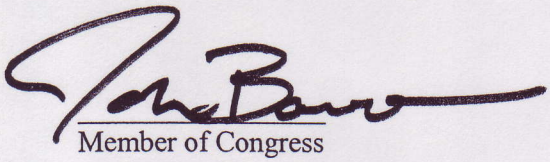
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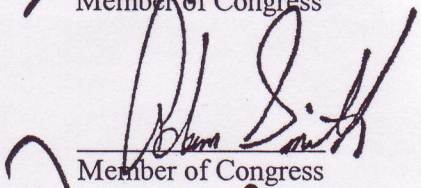
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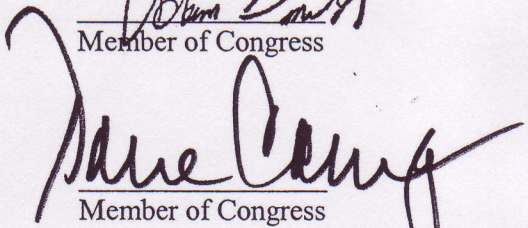
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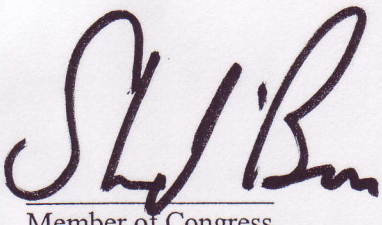

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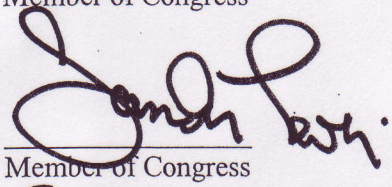

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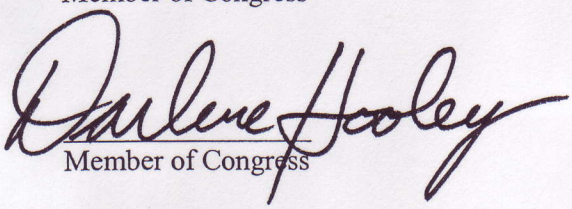

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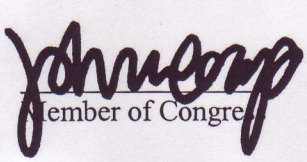

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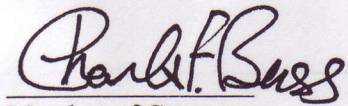

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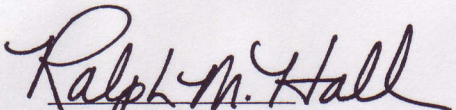

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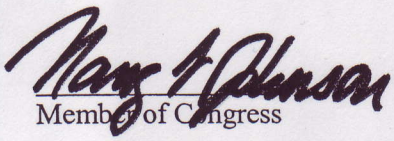

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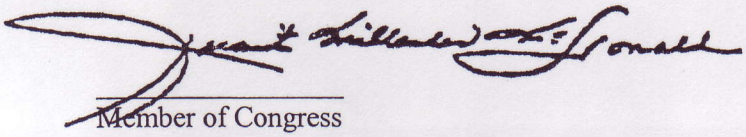

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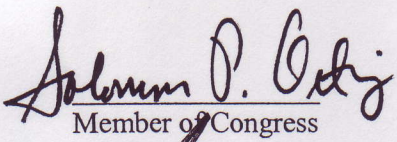

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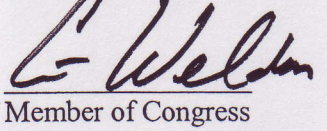

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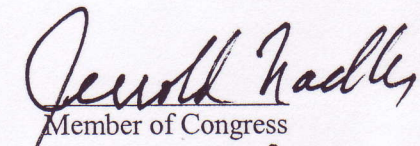

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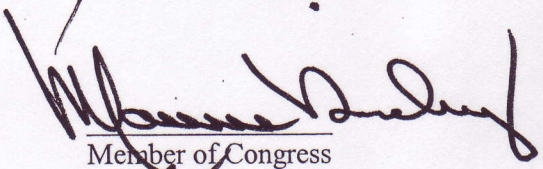

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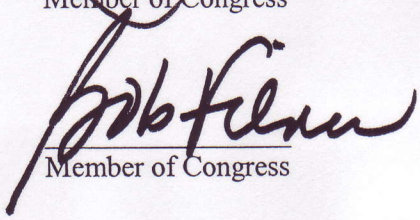

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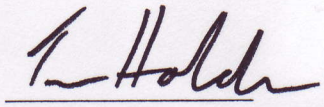

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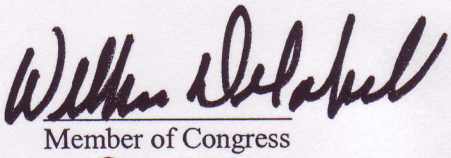

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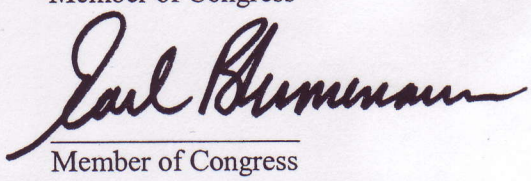

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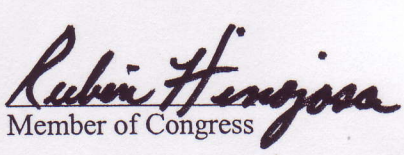

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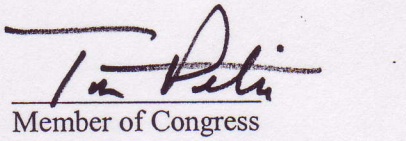

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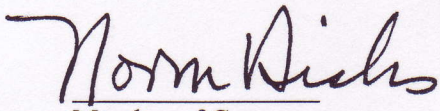

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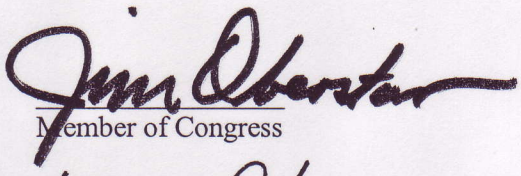

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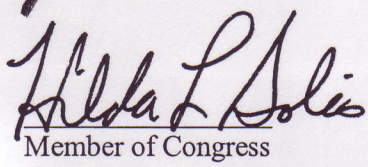

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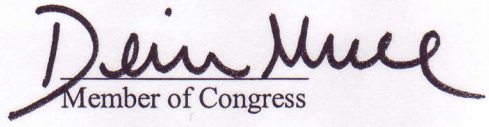

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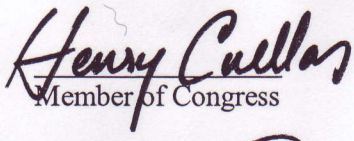

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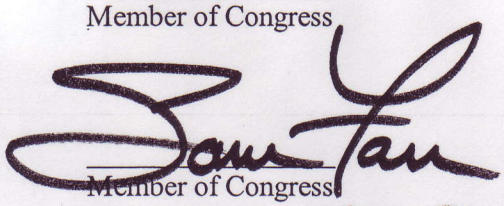

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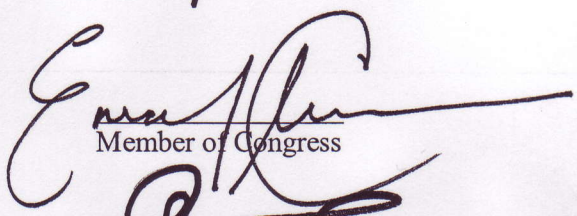

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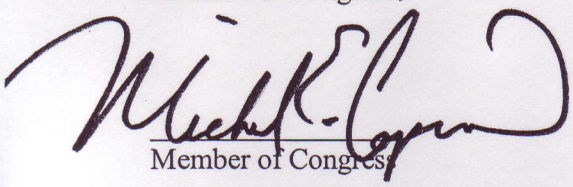

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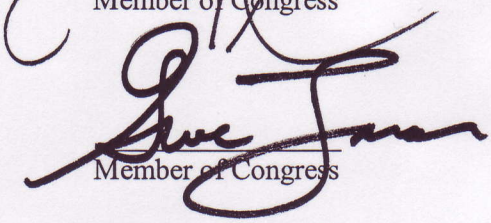

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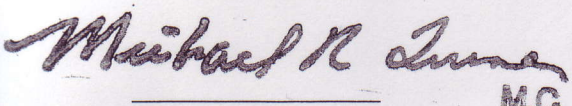

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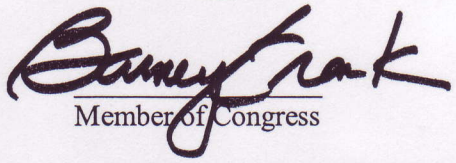

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Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 1, 2006

The Honorable Jim Nussle
Chairman
Committee on the Budget
309 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Nussle,

As you work to finalize the Fiscal Year 2007 House Budget Resolution, we request that you preserve funding for the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program. Despite being appropriated at $630.4 million in FY 2006, the President's FY07 Budget eliminates CSBG funding.

The CSBG program is vital to the efforts of Community Action Agencies (CAAs) nationwide to help the growing population in poverty. The flexible funding from the CSBG program allows CAAs to provide many tailored services and initiatives that not only help low-income families and individuals become self-sufficient and economically independent, but also strengthen low-income communities.

The successes of the CSBG program include 2,011,940 new service opportunities created for low-income families like affordable and expanded public and private transportation, medical care, child care, community centers and youth programs; improved housing for 22,706 low-income families; increased annual income for 53,689 participants; education or job training for 109,127 participants; involvement in community advocacy for 133,431 low income individuals; and continued independent living for 783,005 low-income senior citizens and 28,260 disabled or medically-challenged individuals.

Accordingly, we strongly urge you to adequately fund the CSBG program. We understand the challenges Congress faces and appreciate the difficult task of developing a budget that meets our shared objectives of fiscal discipline. We would like to thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK
Member of Congress

JOHN F. TIERNEY
Member of Congress

PHIL ENGLISH
Member of Congress

CHRIS VAN HOLLEN
Member of Congress

CHARLES DENT
Member of Congress

ROB SIMMONS
Member of Congress

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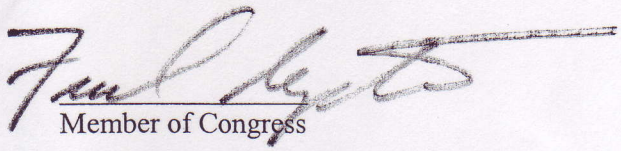
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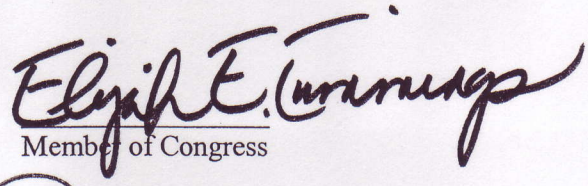
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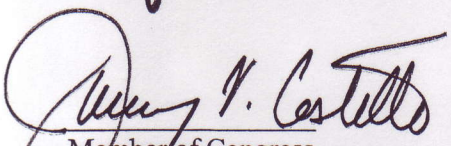
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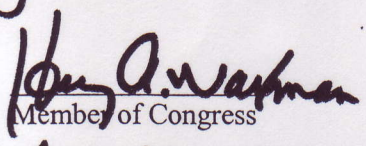
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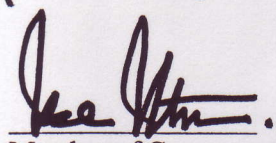
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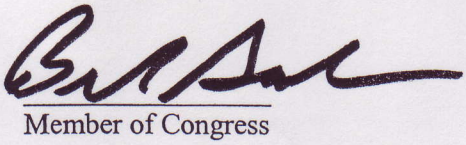
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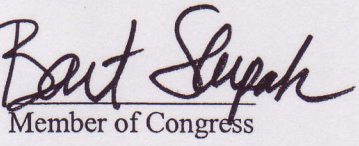
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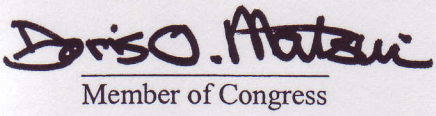
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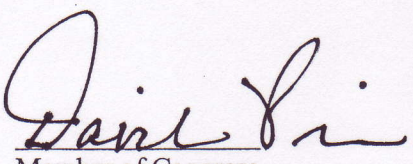
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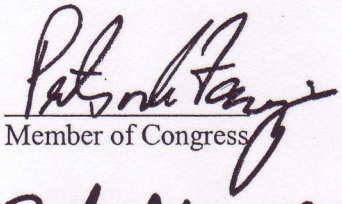
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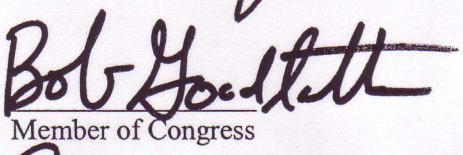
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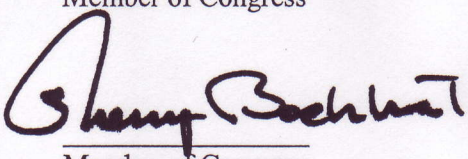
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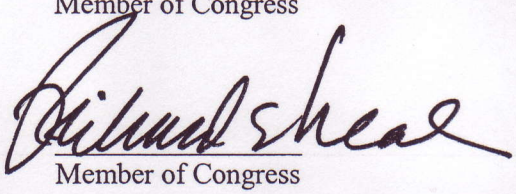
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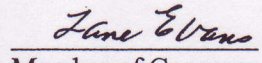
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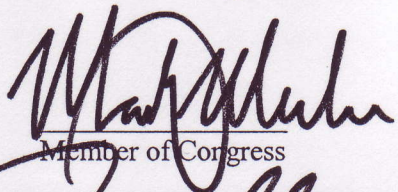
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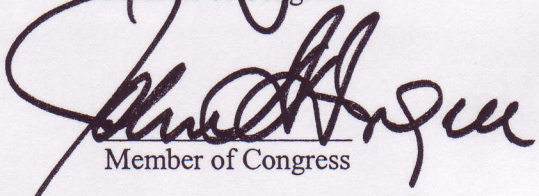
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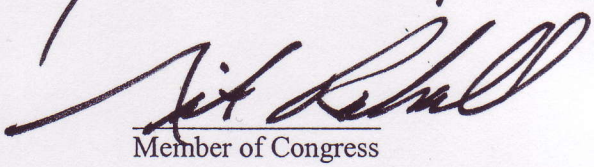
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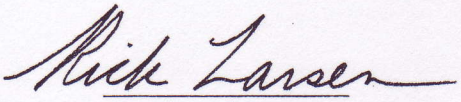
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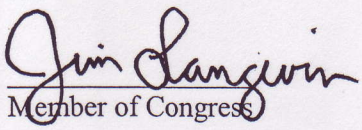
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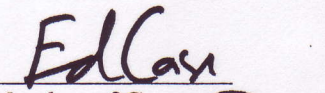
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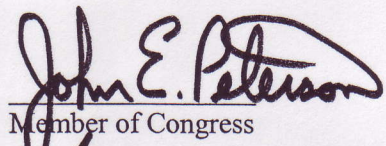
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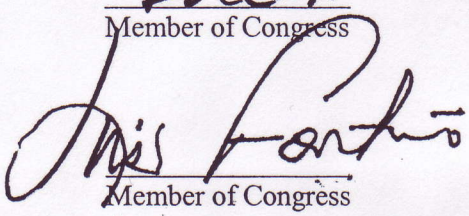
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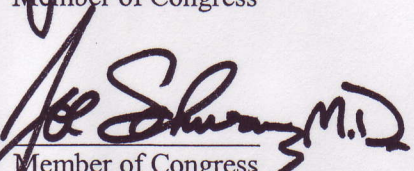
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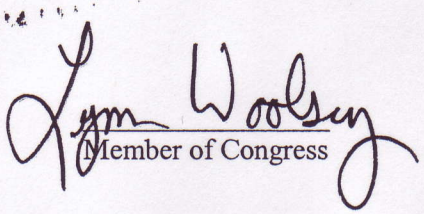
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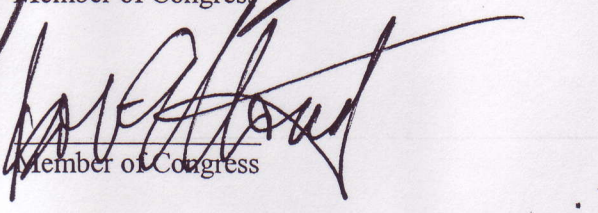
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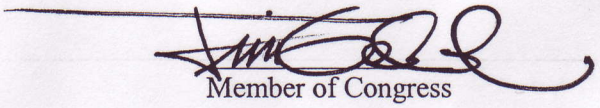
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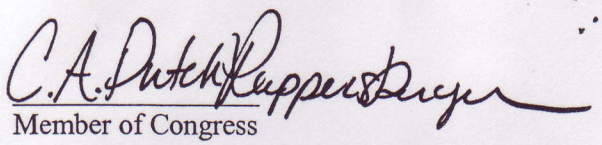
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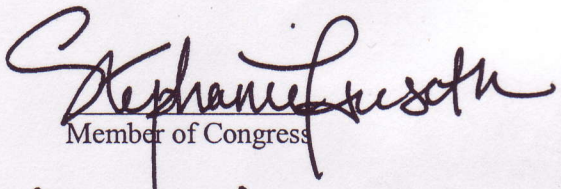
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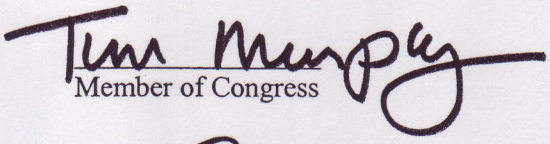
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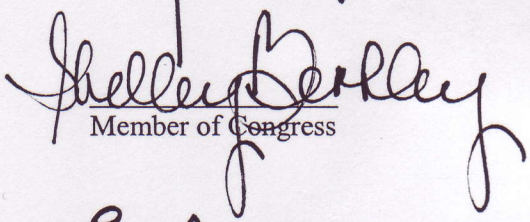
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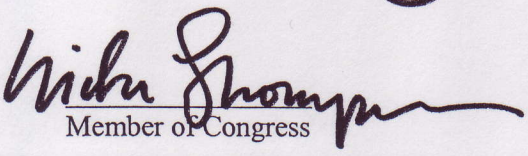
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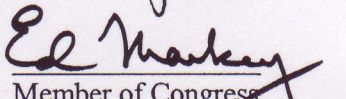
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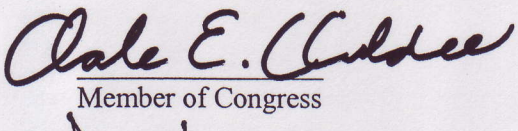
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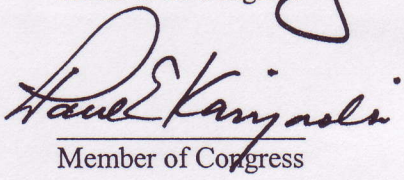
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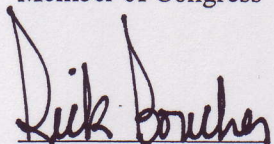
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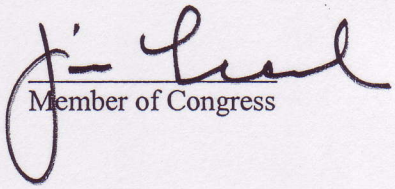
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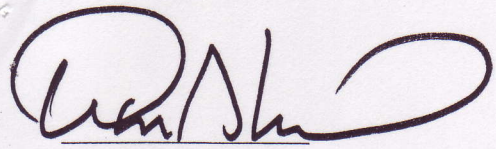
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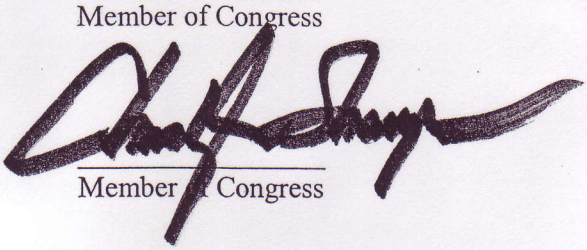
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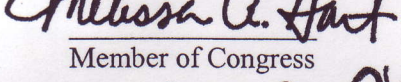
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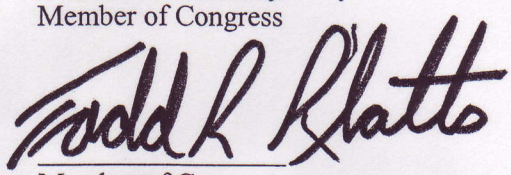
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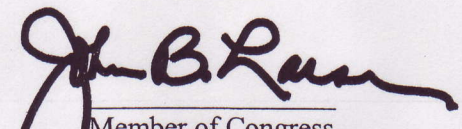
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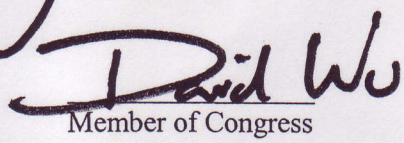
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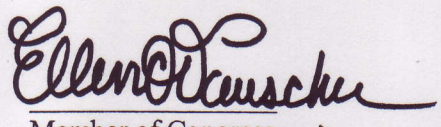
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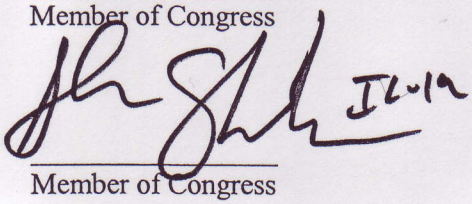
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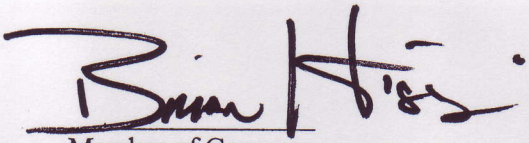
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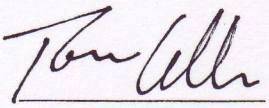
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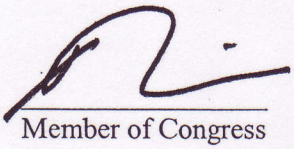
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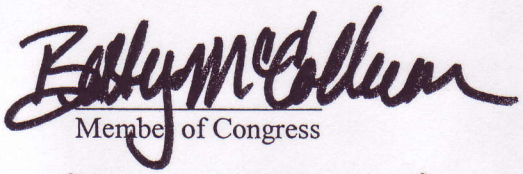
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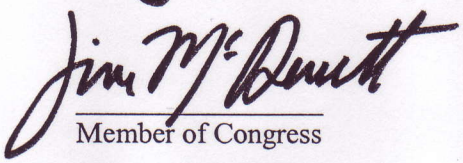
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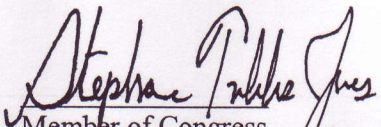
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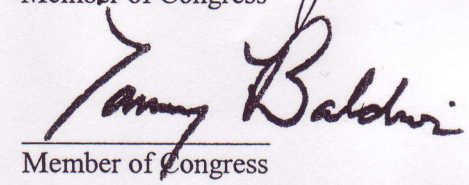
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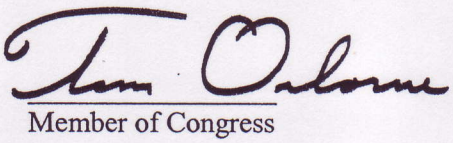
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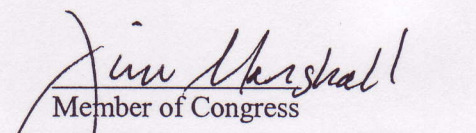
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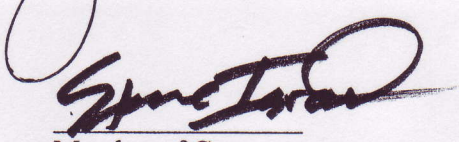
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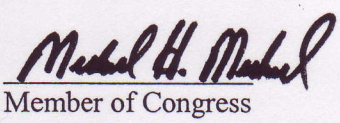
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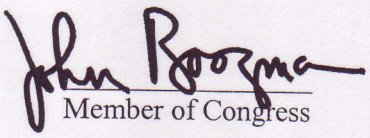
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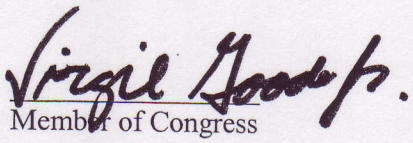
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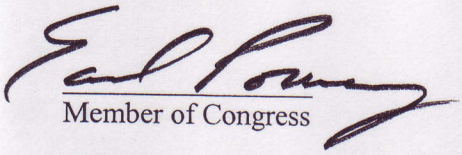
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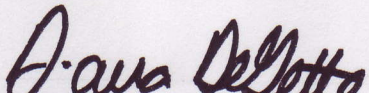
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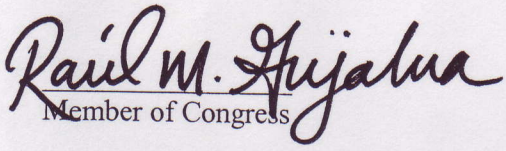
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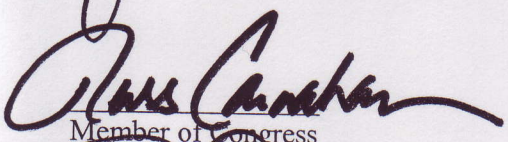
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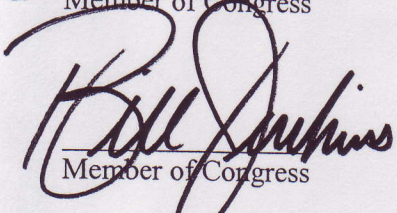
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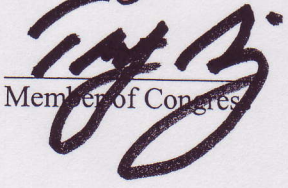
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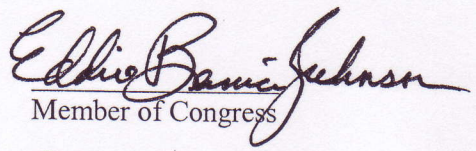
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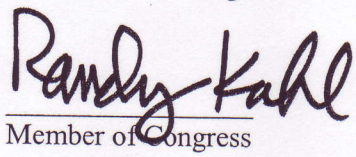
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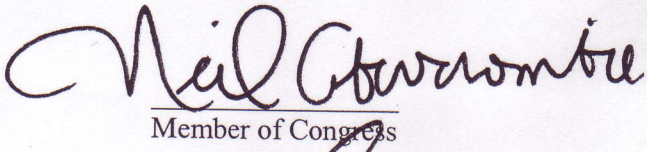
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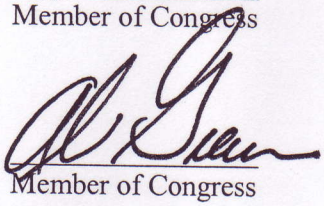
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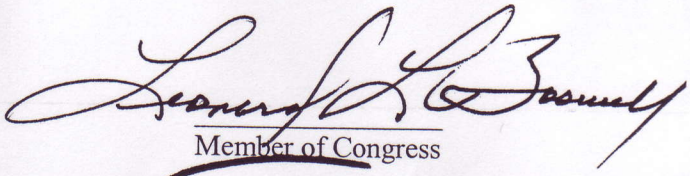
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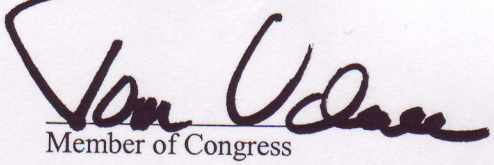
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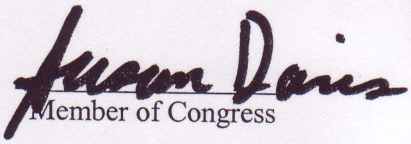
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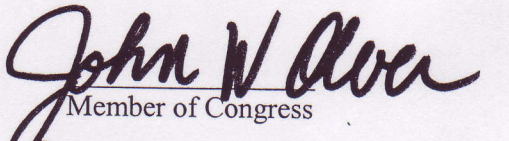
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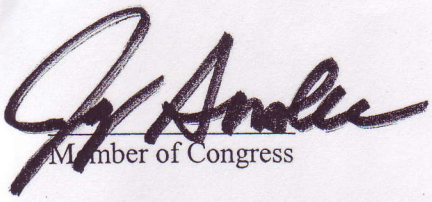
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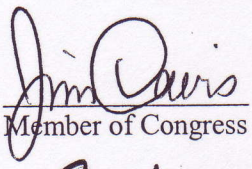
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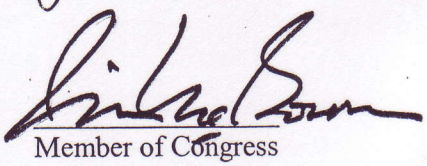
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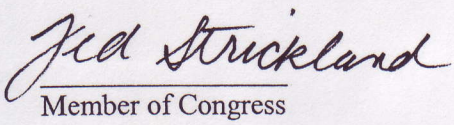
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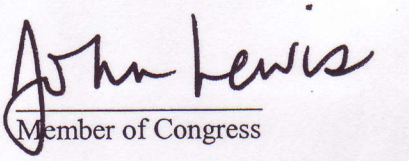
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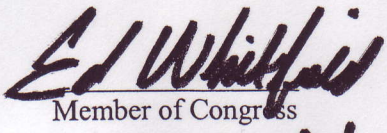
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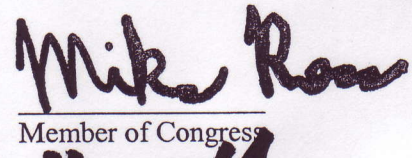
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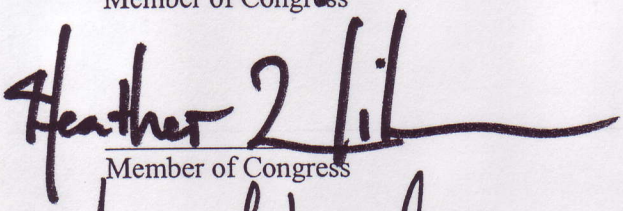
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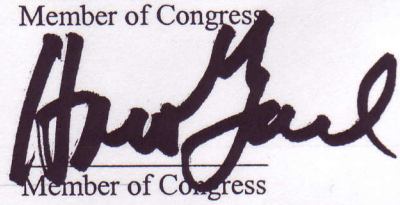
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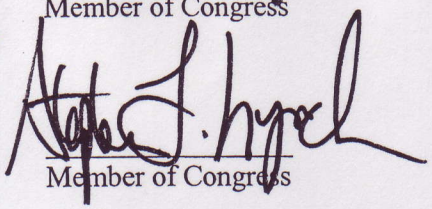
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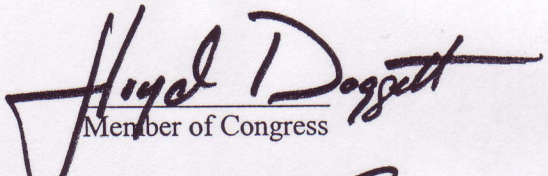
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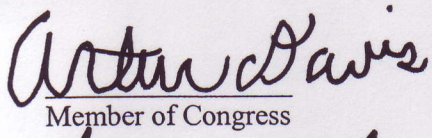
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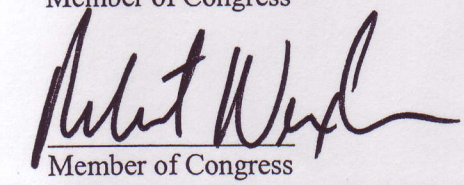
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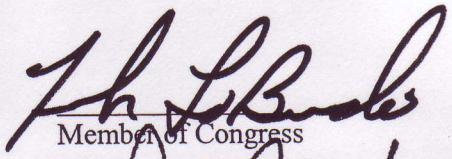
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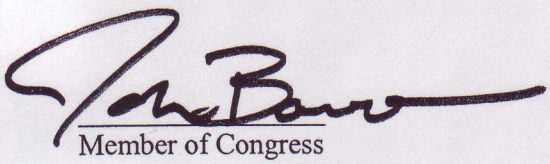
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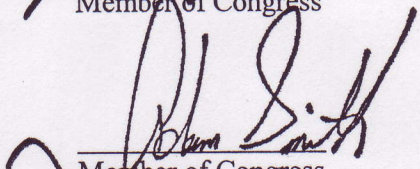
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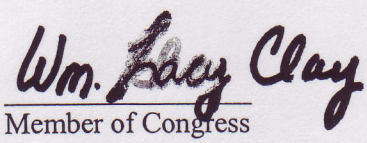
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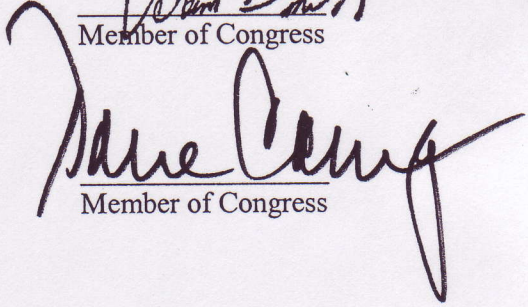
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