

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 3, 2015

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Reid, Speaker Ryan and Minority Leader Pelosi:

As negotiations over the omnibus agreement continue, we urge you to resist any attempt to include a controversial campaign finance provision relaxing political party coordination limits. This change would be a travesty coming on the heels of last year's erosion of the limits on big donor contributions to the parties. Americans have a right to expect that political parties and candidates will answer to them, but this change in the law would only further surrender the party apparatus to the influence of millionaires and billionaires.


Such a change to the current rules governing political party spending would greatly increase the power of a select group of wealthy donors who are capable of contributing large sums to the political parties. This will send a jarring message to Americans of all political stripes that Washington insiders are rigging the system in favor of powerful moneyed interests.

A recent NBC/Wall Street Journal poll found that nearly seven in ten Americans agreed with the statement, *"I feel angry because our political system seems to only be working for the insiders with money and power, like those on Wall Street or in Washington, rather than it working to help everyday people get ahead."* Turning political parties into trophies for the elite donor class will only fuel this cynicism.

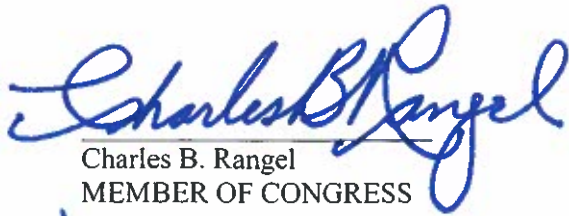
Moreover, the 114th Congress has not held one hearing, commissioned a single study, nor investigated in any serious way the impacts of changing the current coordination rules governing political party spending. We owe it to the American people to ensure that any proposal to change our campaign finance laws be subject to deliberative study and public debate.

For these reasons, we urge you to reject this and any other similarly ill-conceived campaign finance provisions in the final omnibus agreement.

Sincerely,


John Sarbanes
MEMBER OF CONGRESS


Ted Deutch
MEMBER OF CONGRESS


Charles B. Rangel
MEMBER OF CONGRESS


Marcy Kaptur
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

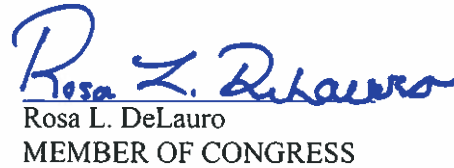

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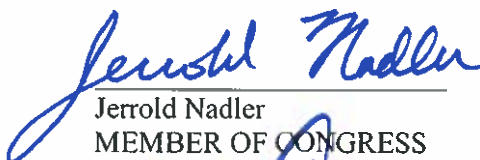

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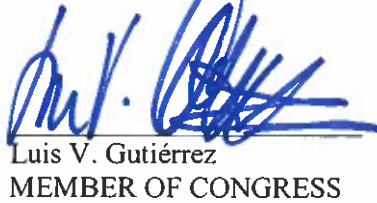

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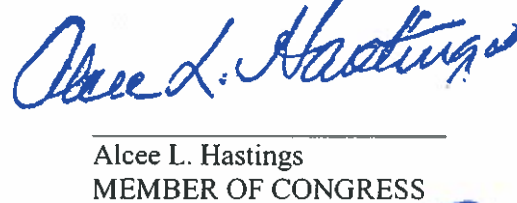

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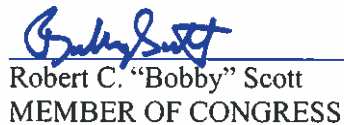

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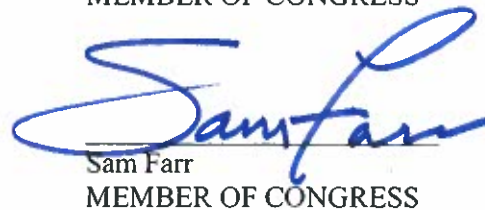

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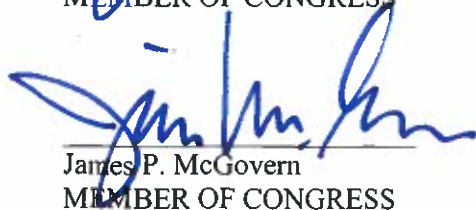

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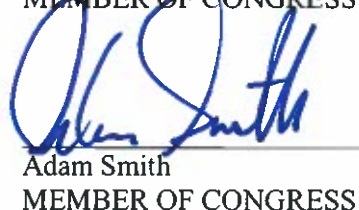

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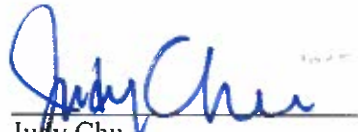

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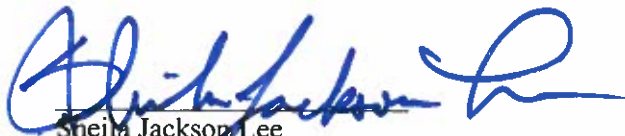
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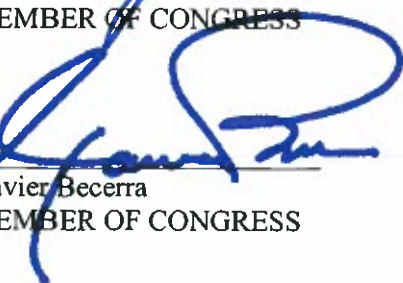
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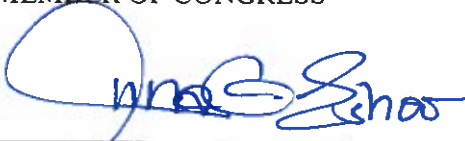
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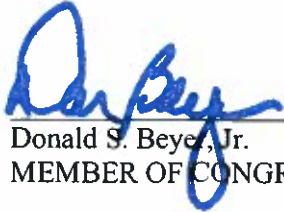
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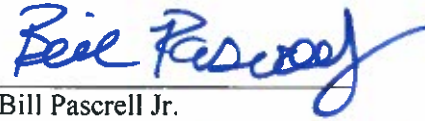
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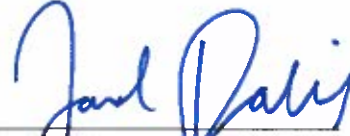
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John Garamendi
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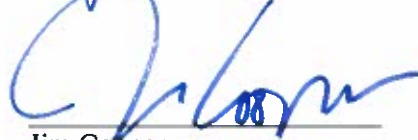
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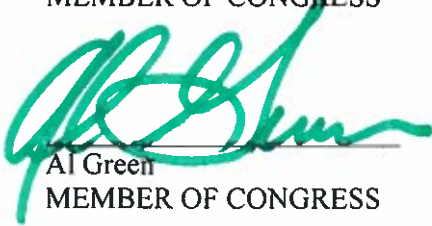
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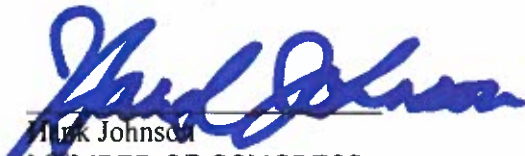
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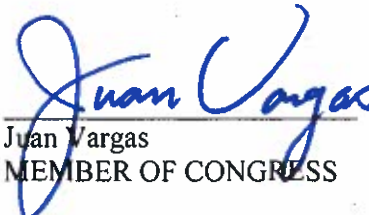
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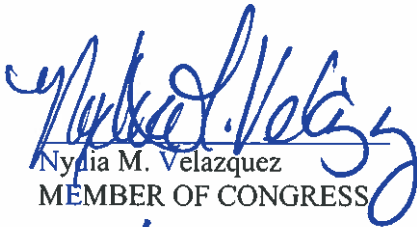
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