

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 13, 2020

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services, Education,
and Related Agencies
2358-B Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services, Education
and Related Agencies
1016 Longworth Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

As you draft your Fiscal Year 2021 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations bill, we request that you include \$106.1 million in funding for International Education and Foreign Language Studies. This includes \$95.7 million for Higher Education Act-Title VI and \$10.4 million for Fulbright-Hays programs.

Title VI/Fulbright-Hays programs have had a tremendous impact on our nation over the years by developing a strong foundation in international education, research, and foreign language studies, especially in the less-commonly taught languages of U.S. strategic interest.

Multiple GAO reports have cited shortfalls of language and culture skills in the U.S. military and intelligence community, finding that our nation's language deficit could threaten our priorities and missions around the globe. At the same time, growing security challenges in other issue areas such as global health, environment, food production, cybersecurity, and law enforcement increasingly depend on international knowledge and skills. Meanwhile, America's business and their clientele are diversifying and globalizing their operations, requiring language skills and cultural knowledge to compete successfully in global markets.

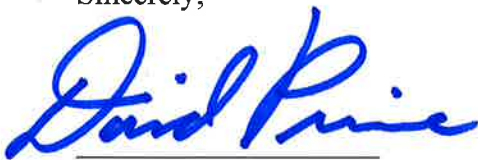
The Commission on Language Learning of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, requested by Congress in 2014, released its final report on February 28, 2017. The data demonstrates that "by several measures, the United States has neglected languages in its educational curricula, its international strategies, and its domestic policies." The Commission also found that the U.S. educational system is not fully prepared to meet the rapidly growing demands for professionals and educators with area, regional, international business and foreign language knowledge. Effective communication is the basis of international cooperation, and a strong national defense depends substantially on the ability of Americans to communicate and compete by knowing the languages and cultures of other countries.

Strong academic programs in critical foreign languages and intensive training in multi-disciplinary regional studies -- including socio-economic, cultural, security, and religious and business aspects, among others -- are vital to our national security and global economic competitiveness. But beyond the intensive curriculum development and related academic

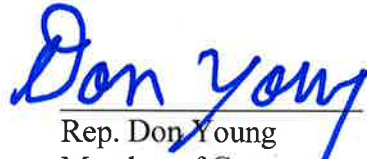
programming resulting from these programs, Title VI resources make possible extensive outreach to K-12 classrooms, strong collaborations between four-year postsecondary institutions and community colleges, and strengthened ties between U. S. postsecondary institutions and international partners.

The various programs funded under this account serve to strengthen the nation's educational infrastructure in areas where the need grows greater by the day. We are thankful for your commitment to these programs and the increased funding provided in the prior fiscal year. We hope to build on this progress and urge \$106.1 million for this critical international and foreign language education infrastructure. This is a small but vitally important investment in our nation's education, national security, and economic competitiveness.

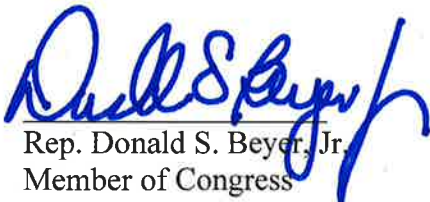
Sincerely,



Rep. David Price
Member of Congress



Rep. Don Young
Member of Congress



Rep. Donald S. Beyer, Jr.
Member of Congress



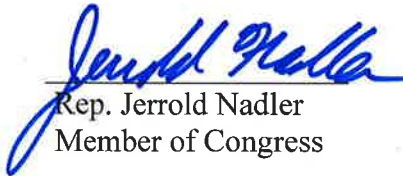
Rep. Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Rep. Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Rep. Sean Casten
Member of Congress



Rep. Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Rep. Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



Rep. Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



Rep. Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Rep. James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Rep. Andy Kim
Member of Congress



Rep. Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Rep. John Yarmuth
Member of Congress

Rep. Adam Smith
Member of Congress

Rep. Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress

Rep. Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress

Rep. Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress

Rep. Ron Kind
Member of Congress

Rep. Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress

Rep. André Carson
Member of Congress

Rep. Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

Rep. Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress

Rep. Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress

Rep. David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

Rep. David Scott
Member of Congress

Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress

Rep. Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress

Rep. Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress

Rep. James R. Langevin
Member of Congress

Rep. Steve Cohen
Member of Congress

Rep. Juan Vargas
Member of Congress

Rep. Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

Rep. Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress

Rep. Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress

Rep. Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress

Rep. Julia Brownley
Member of Congress

Rep. Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress

Rep. Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress

Rep. John Garamendi
Member of Congress

Rep. Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

Rep. Diana DeGette
Member of Congress

Rep. Katie Porter
Member of Congress

Rep. Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress

Rep. Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress

Rep. Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

Rep. Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress

Rep. Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

Rep. Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress

Rep. Peter T. King
Member of Congress

Rep. Jennifer Wexton
Member of Congress

Rep. Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress

Rep. Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress

Rep. Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

Rep. Rodney Davis
Member of Congress

Rep. Antonio R. Delgado
Member of Congress

Rep. Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress

Rep. Jared Golden
Member of Congress

Rep. Steven Horsford
Member of Congress

Rep. Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress

Rep. Ben McAdams
Member of Congress

Rep. Jennifer González-Colón
Member of Congress



Rep. Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress




Rep. Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress



Rep. Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



Rep. Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



Rep. Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Rep. Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



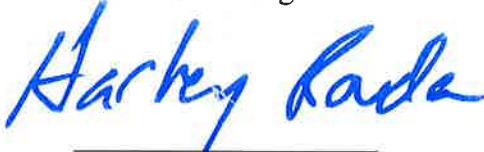
Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Rep. Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy, III
Member of Congress



Rep. Harley Rouda
Member of Congress



Rep. Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Rep. Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress



Rep. Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



Rep. David Trone
Member of Congress



Rep. Angie Craig
Member of Congress



Rep. Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



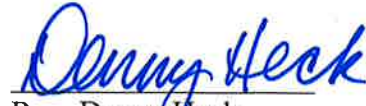
Rep. Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress



Rep. Mike Levin
Member of Congress



Rep. Debbie Mucarsel-Powell
Member of Congress



Rep. Denny Heck
Member of Congress



Rep. Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Rep. Karen Bass
Member of Congress



Rep. Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress



Rep. Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Rep. Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



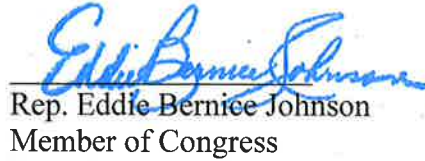
Rep. Guy Reschenthaler
Member of Congress



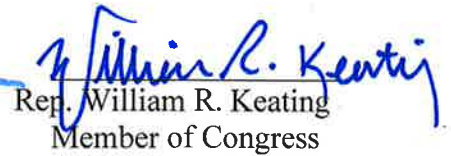
Rep. Andy Levin
Member of Congress



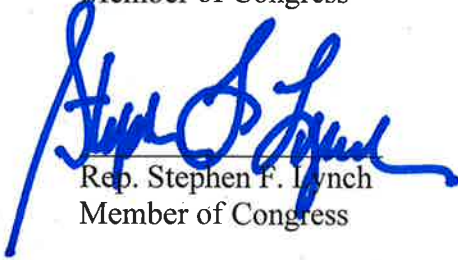
Rep. Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



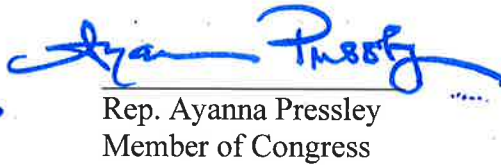
Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress




Rep. William R. Keating
Member of Congress



Rep. Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



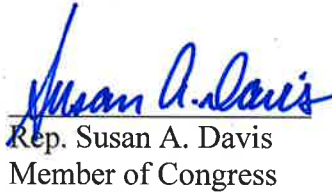
Rep. Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress



Rep. Jim Himes
Member of Congress



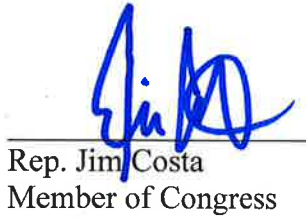
Rep. Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress



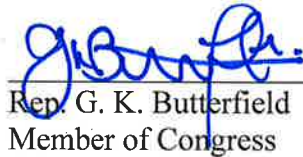
Rep. Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress



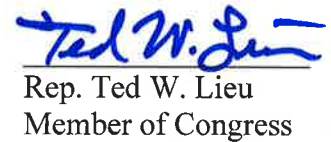
Rep. Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



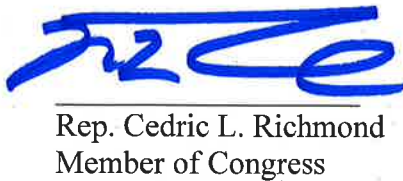
Rep. Jim Costa
Member of Congress



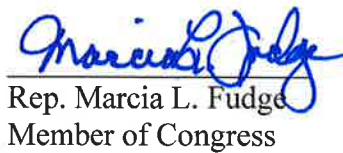
Rep. G. K. Butterfield
Member of Congress



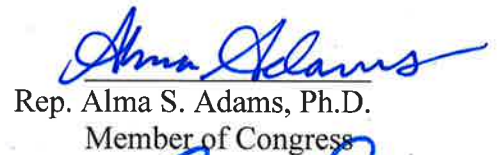
Rep. Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



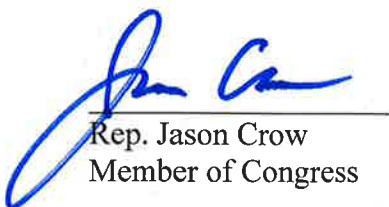
Rep. Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress



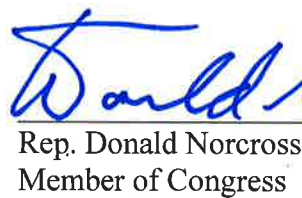
Rep. Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress



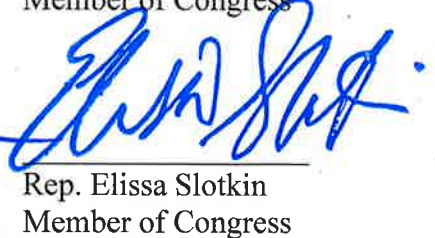
Rep. Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress



Rep. Jason Crow
Member of Congress



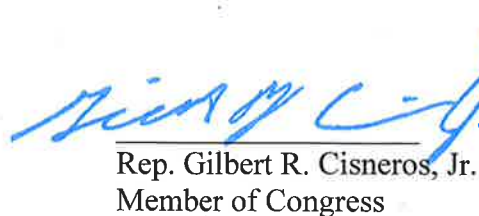
Rep. Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



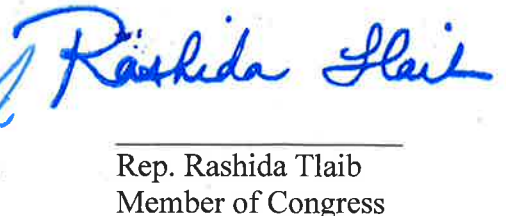
Rep. Elissa Slotkin
Member of Congress



Rep. Conor Lamb
Member of Congress




Rep. Gilbert R. Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress





Rep. Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Rep. Ben Ray Luján
Member of Congress



Rep. Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress


Rep. A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress


Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress


Rep. Anthony G. Brown
Member of Congress


Rep. Joe Neguse
Member of Congress


Rep. Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress