

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

August 2, 2006

The Honorable Jerry Lewis  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H 218  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David R. Obey  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1016 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harold Rogers  
Chairman  
Homeland Security Subcommittee  
Committee on Appropriations  
B 307 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Martin Olav Sabo  
Ranking Member  
Homeland Security Subcommittee  
Committee on Appropriations  
1016 Longworth HOB  
Washington, 20515

Dear Chairman Lewis, Ranking Member Obey, Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Sabo:

As you work in conference on the Fiscal Year 2007 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Bill, we urge you to include not less than the \$200 million approved by the House for the intercity passenger rail, freight rail, and transit security grant program.

The recent terrorist bombing on the Mumbai commuter rail system again highlights the need to increase our nation's commitment to transit security. This attack comes after similar deadly bombings in Madrid in 2004 and in London last year. As you know, the House approved an amendment increasing funding for this essential transit security program by \$50 million, to a total of \$200 million (Roll Call 216). We urge you to include this additional funding in the final Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Conference Report.

Following the terrible events of September 11, 2001, our nation took unprecedented steps to secure our nation's airlines. Congress has continued to provide the needed level of funding to ensure that our nation's airlines are some of the safest in the world. We strongly support this important funding. However, there remains a large disparity between the level of funding for transit security grants and the millions of Americans who regularly rely on safe and secure rail systems. In 2004, the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) outlined \$6 billion in needs for transit agency security-related investments, and just this year, APTA documented the need for \$560 million for Fiscal Year 2007 to address this shortfall. Just recently, the United States Conference of Mayors adopted a resolution calling for this investment in transit security.

Every weekday, more than 14 million people use public transportation. According to the national transit database, public transportation moved more than 8.8 billion passengers in 2003. Further, more than 25 million passengers ride Amtrak each year. Yet, we have done relatively little to protect rail and transit travelers from terrorist attacks.

Again, we urge you to support \$200 million for transit security grants in the final Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Conference Report. We need to act now to ensure that our local transit providers have the resources they need to protect the millions of Americans who rely on rail service.

Sincerely,



Rush Holt  
Member of Congress



Michael N. Castle  
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



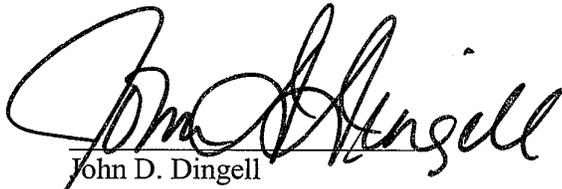
Steven C. LaTourette  
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



Curt Weldon  
Member of Congress

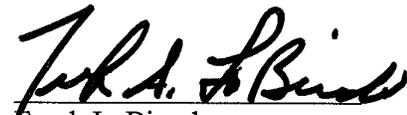


John D. Dingell  
Member of Congress



Vito Fossella  
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James L. Oberstar  
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Frank LoBiondo  
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Harold E. Ford  
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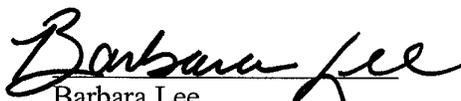
  
Michael G. Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress

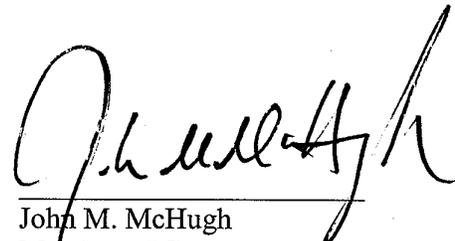
  
Sherrod Brown  
Member of Congress

  
Sue W. Kelly  
Member of Congress

  
Ellen O. Tauscher  
Member of Congress

  
Scott Garrett  
Member of Congress

  
Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress

  
John M. McHugh  
Member of Congress

  
Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress

  
Christopher Shays  
Member of Congress



Carolyn McCarthy  
Member of Congress



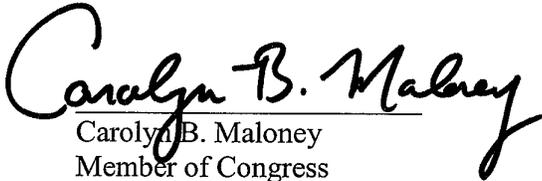
Jim Gerlach  
Member of Congress



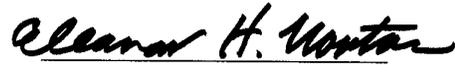
Steve Israel  
Member of Congress



Rob Simmons  
Member of Congress



Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress



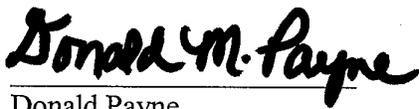
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



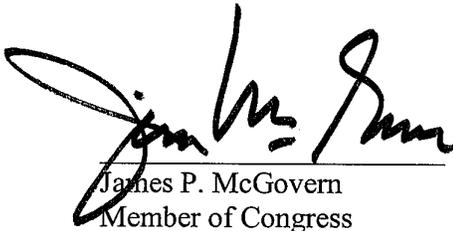
Elijah E. Cummings  
Member of Congress



Donald Payne  
Member of Congress



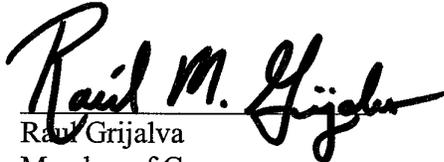
Timothy Bishop  
Member of Congress

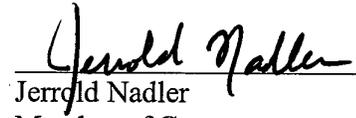


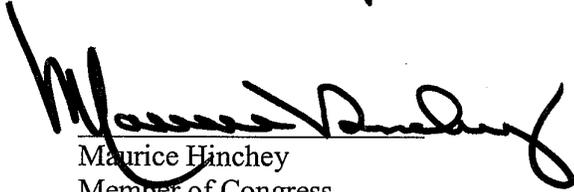
James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress

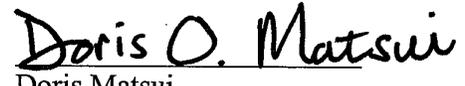


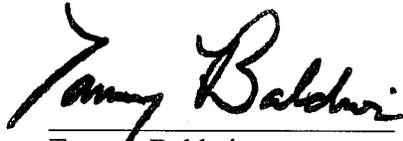
Lois Capps  
Member of Congress

  
Raul Grijalva  
Member of Congress

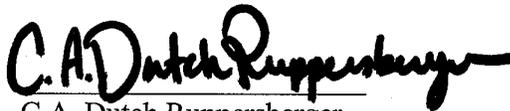
  
Jerrald Nadler  
Member of Congress

  
Maurice Hinchey  
Member of Congress

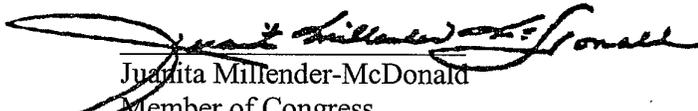
  
Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress

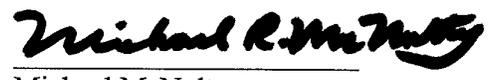
  
Tammy Baldwin  
Member of Congress

  
Rosa DeLauro  
Member of Congress

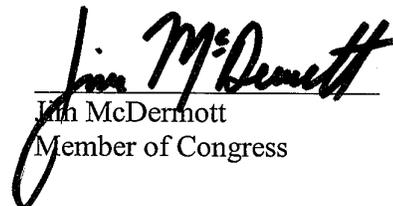
  
C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger  
Member of Congress

  
Tom Lantos  
Member of Congress

  
Juarita Millender-McDonald  
Member of Congress

  
Michael McNulty  
Member of Congress

  
Allyson Schwartz  
Member of Congress

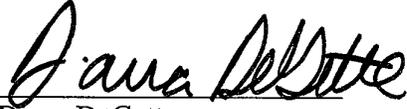
  
Jim McDermott  
Member of Congress



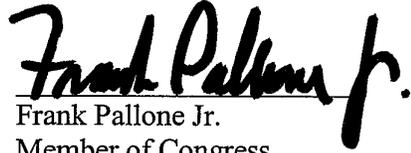
Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress



Melvin Watt  
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



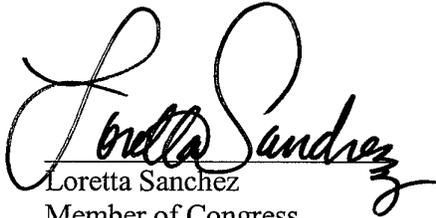
Frank Pallone Jr.  
Member of Congress



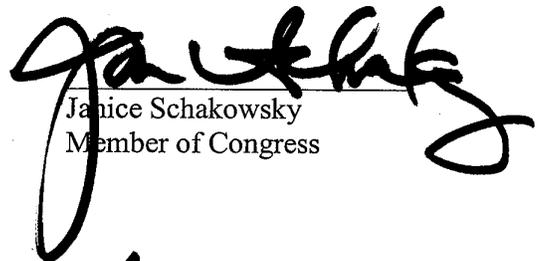
Julia Carson  
Member of Congress



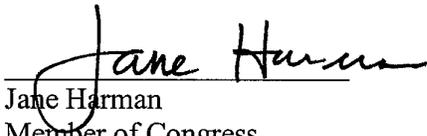
Robert Wexler  
Member of Congress



Loretta Sanchez  
Member of Congress



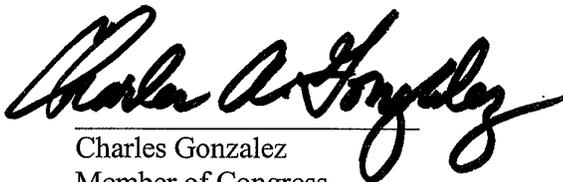
Janice Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



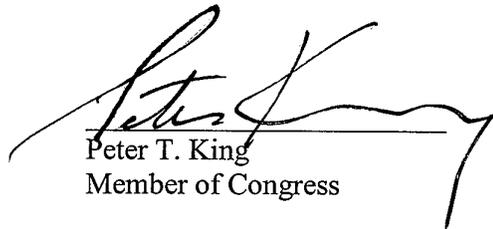
Jane Harman  
Member of Congress



Robert Andrews  
Member of Congress



Charles Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



Peter T. King  
Member of Congress