

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 29, 2019

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment, & Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Joyce
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment, & Related Agencies
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman McCollum and Ranking Member Joyce:

We write to respectfully request that you provide at least \$10 million for Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health (BEACH) Act grants in the Fiscal Year 2020 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

Our nation's beaches add tens of billions of dollars to our economy and provide recreational activity for millions of Americans each year. The Jersey Shore alone generates \$44 billion a year and supports over half a million direct and indirect jobs. The quality of our water is of the utmost importance in ensuring that record of economic and recreational success continues, and BEACH Act grants are the best tool at our disposal to ensure that our coasts are safe for swimming, surfing, fishing, and other activities.

BEACH Act grants help states and localities pay for testing to ensure our waters are safe for swimming. When tests show unsafe levels of bacteria, local and state agencies notify the public or close the beaches completely until bacteria levels fall to acceptable levels. Without this critical federal support, beachgoers would be in serious jeopardy, with many states and localities unable to fill the resulting funding gap to keep communities safe.

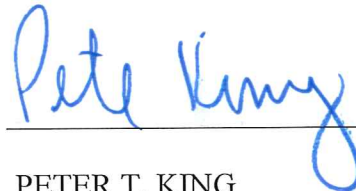
A modest continuation of funding would have an outsized impact on American beachgoers, the communities that welcome them, and the businesses that count on their support each year. To that end, we urge you to maintain this vital investment by dedicating at least \$10 million for BEACH Act grants in the Fiscal Year 2020 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

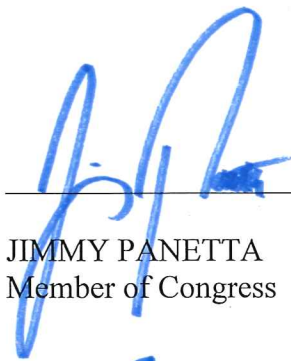
Sincerely,



FRANK PALLONE, JR.
Member of Congress



PETER T. KING
Member of Congress



JIMMY PANETTA
Member of Congress



SCOTT H. PETERS
Member of Congress



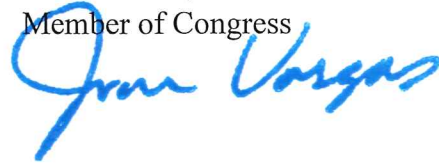
PETER A. DEFAZIO
Member of Congress



RICK LARSEN
Member of Congress



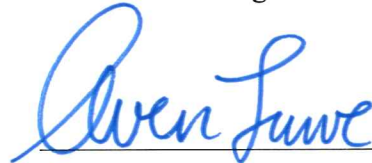
GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN
Member of Congress



JUAN VARGAS
Member of Congress



DAVID N. CICILLINE
Member of Congress



GWEN MOORE
Member of Congress



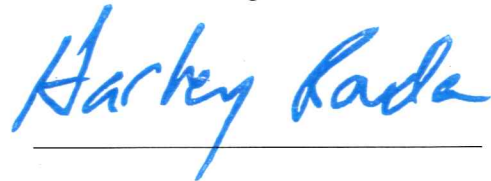
ALCEE L. HASTINGS
Member of Congress



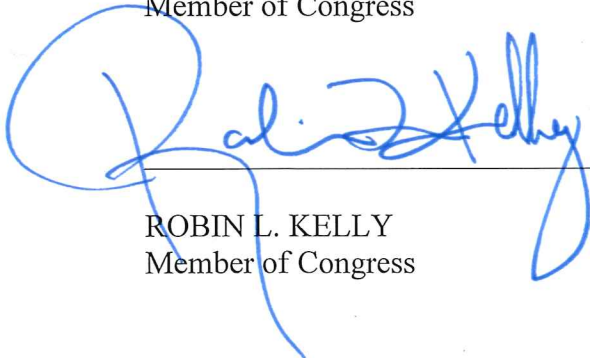
TULSI GABBARD
Member of Congress



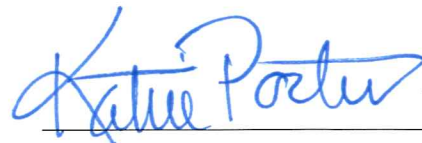
JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN
Member of Congress



HARLEY ROUDA
Member of Congress



ROBIN L. KELLY
Member of Congress



KATIE PORTER
Member of Congress



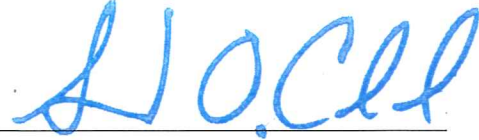
FREDERICA S. WILSON
Member of Congress



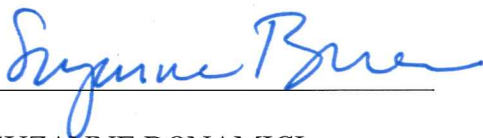
JOSH GOTTHEIMER
Member of Congress



ANDY KIM
Member of Congress



SALUD O. CARBAJAL
Member of Congress



SUZANNE BONAMICI
Member of Congress



A. DONALD MCEACHIN
Member of Congress



ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
Member of Congress



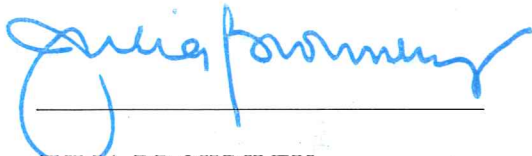
RAÚL M. GRIVALVA
Member of Congress



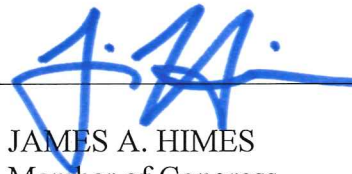
STACEY E. PLASKETT
Member of Congress



ALBIO SIRES
Member of Congress



JULIA BROWNLEY
Member of Congress



JAMES A. HIMES
Member of Congress



TOM MALINOWSKI
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer

EARL BLUMENAUER
Member of Congress

Donald Norcross

DONALD NORCROSS
Member of Congress