

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 11, 2017

The Honorable Elaine C. Duke
Acting Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Acting Secretary Duke,

We write to strongly urge you to renew the Temporary Protected Status designation for Honduras and El Salvador.

Failing to renew TPS would needlessly tear apart families and communities across the country. There are currently approximately 200,000 Salvadorans who hold TPS and the approximately 61,000 Hondurans. TPS holders from Honduras and El Salvador have become valued and important members of our communities. They have started families, opened businesses, and contributed to this country in countless ways. They are part of the fabric of America.

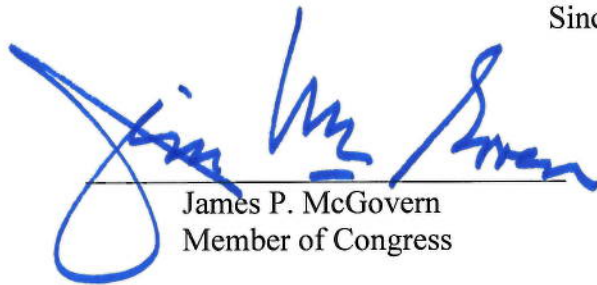
Honduras and El Salvador remain unprepared to receive these individuals. As the most recent TPS extension notes, there is a “substantial, but temporary, disruption of living conditions” in both countries, resulting from Hurricane Mitch in Honduras and a series of earthquakes in El Salvador. Unfortunately, conditions have not sufficiently improved since the most recent extension. Additionally, El Salvador and Honduras are ranked as among the most violent countries in the world, and job opportunities are scarce. These factors complicate the ability of Honduras and El Salvador to fully recover from the natural disasters that resulted in their original designation.

The potential return of hundreds of thousands of former TPS holders to Honduras and El Salvador would likely bring destabilizing consequences throughout the region. At the Conference for Prosperity and Security in Central America, you stated that the “U.S. Homeland Security mission is affected directly by what goes on in Central America.” We agree, and we are deeply concerned that failing to renew TPS status for Honduras and El Salvador would undermine U.S. efforts to advance prosperity and security in Central America.

TPS designations have been made and extended under administrations of both political parties since its creation by statute in 1990; extension of these TPS designations is not only fully within your authority but completely appropriate given the country conditions. We strongly urge you to renew TPS, in order to preserve the integrity of American families and communities, and to steady the path of progress being made toward stability in the region.

Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

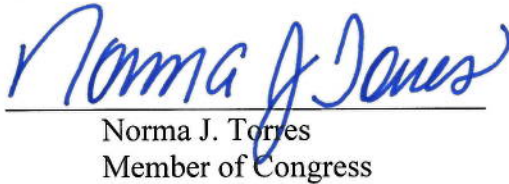
Sincerely,



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Randy Hultgren
Member of Congress



Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress



Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress



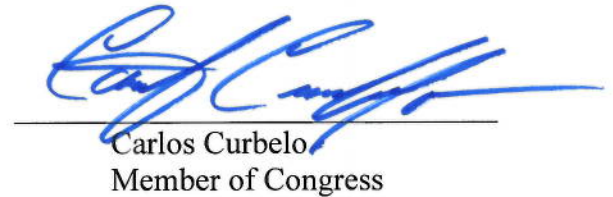
John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress



Mike Coffman
Member of Congress



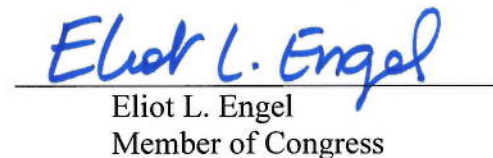
Nita M. Lowey
Member of Congress



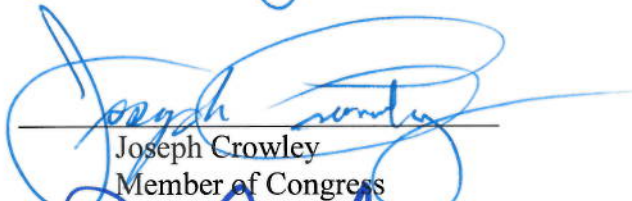
Carlos Curbelo
Member of Congress



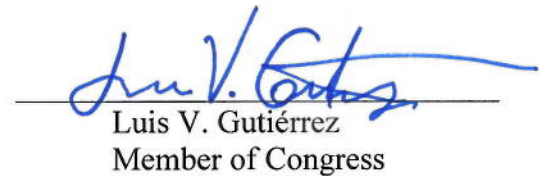
Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



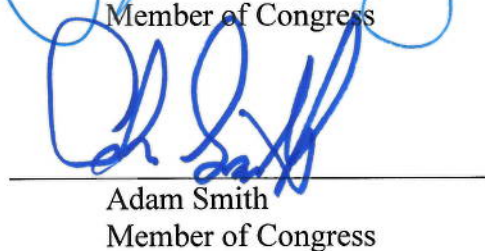
Eliot L. Engel
Member of Congress



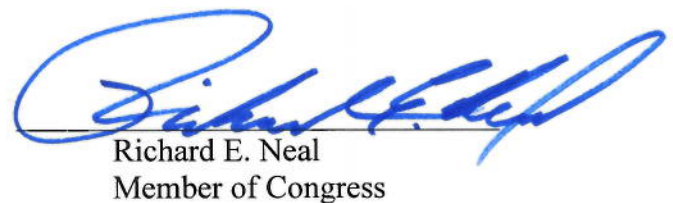
Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress



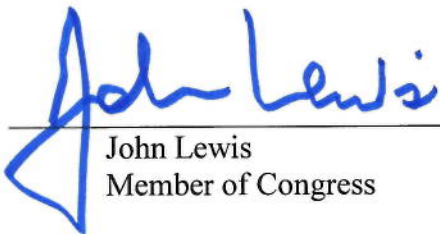
Luis V. Gutiérrez
Member of Congress

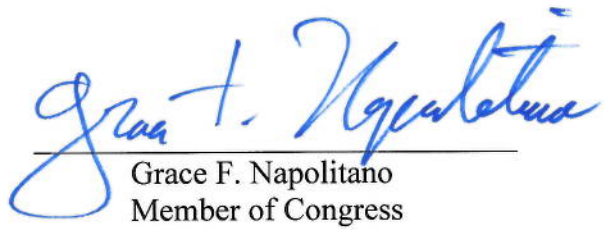


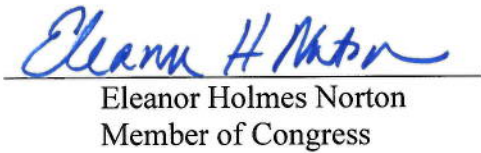
Adam Smith
Member of Congress

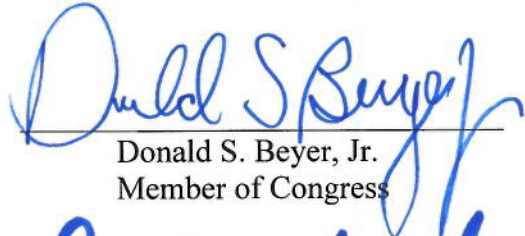


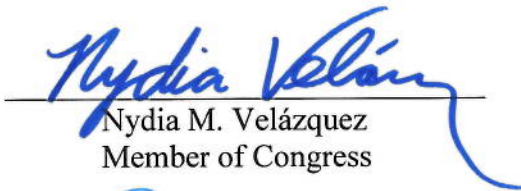
Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress

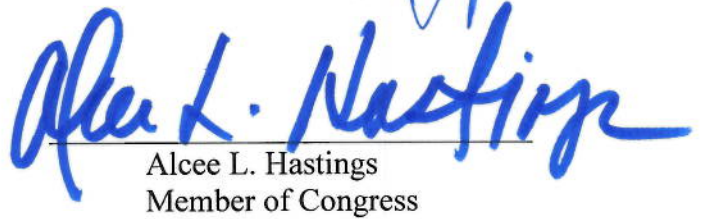

John Lewis
Member of Congress


Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress


Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress


Donald S. Beyer, Jr.
Member of Congress

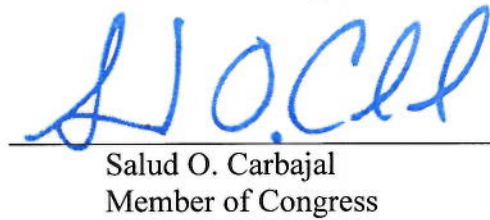

Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

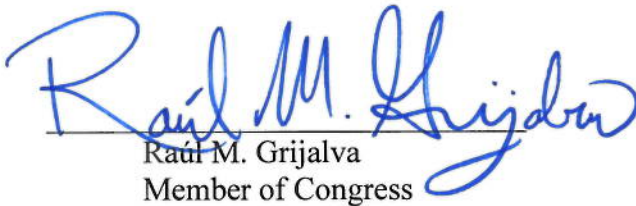

Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress

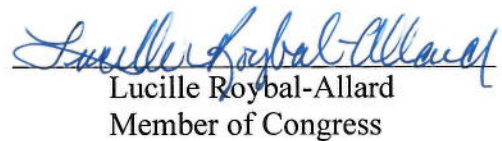

Darren Soto
Member of Congress


Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress

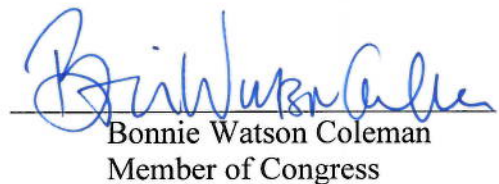

Juan Vargas
Member of Congress


Salud O. Carbajal
Member of Congress


Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress

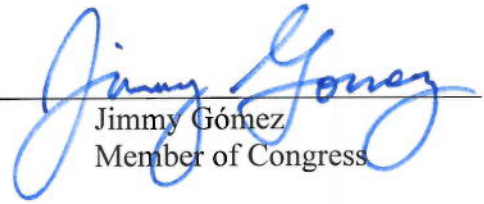

Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress


André Carson
Member of Congress

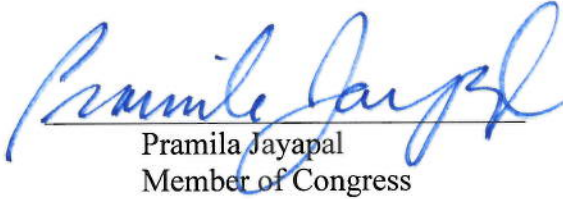

Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



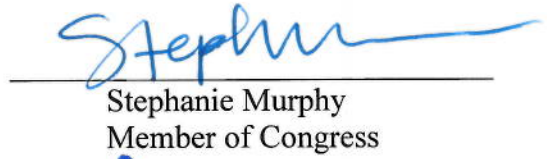
Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gómez
Member of Congress



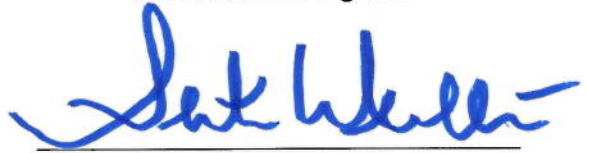
Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress




Stephanie Murphy
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



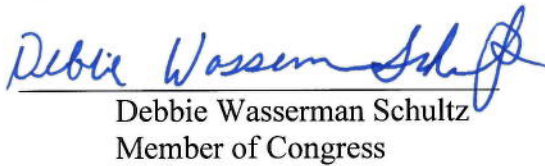
Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress



Tony Cardenas
Member of Congress



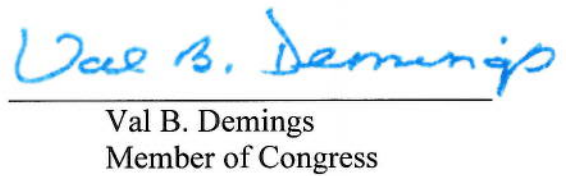
Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



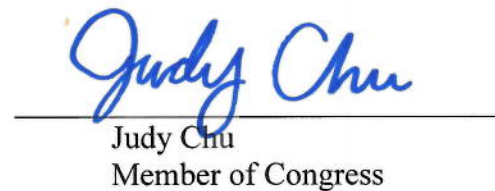
Betty McCollum
Member of Congress



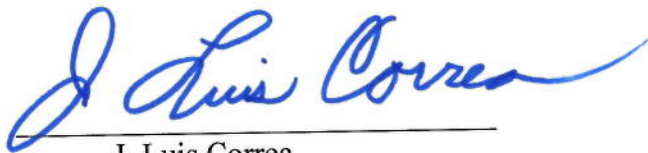
Val B. Demings
Member of Congress



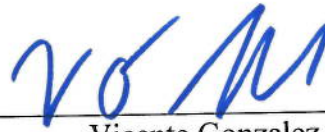
Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



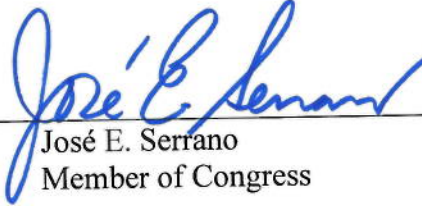
Judy Chu
Member of Congress



J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



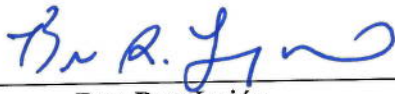
Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress



José E. Serrano
Member of Congress



Beto O'Rourke
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Luján
Member of Congress



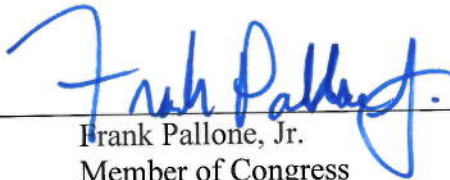
Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



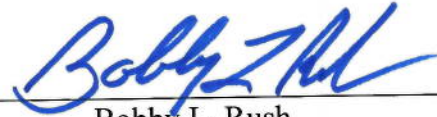
Anthony G. Brown
Member of Congress



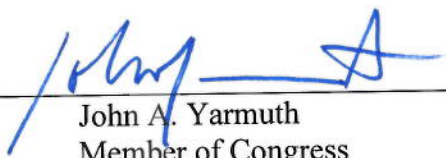
Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress



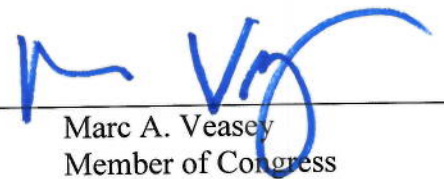
Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



John A. Yarmuth
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



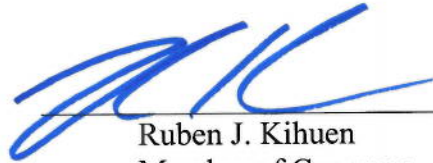
Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress



Ruben J. Kihuen
Member of Congress



Michelle Lujan Grisham
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



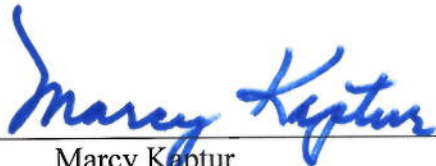
David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison
Member of Congress



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



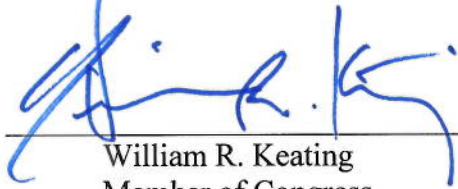
Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress



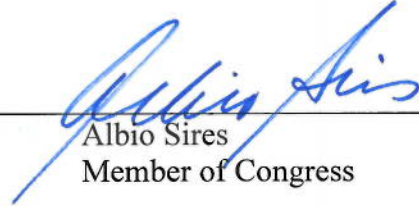
Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



William R. Keating
Member of Congress



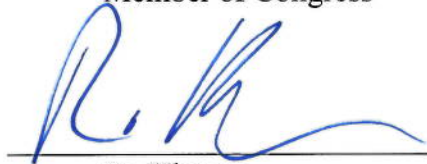
Albio Sires
Member of Congress



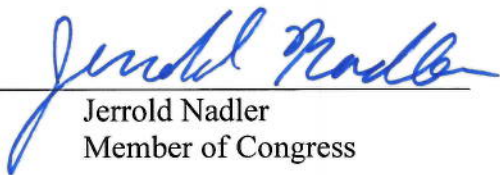
Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress



Carol Shea-Porter
Member of Congress



Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Jared Polis
Member of Congress



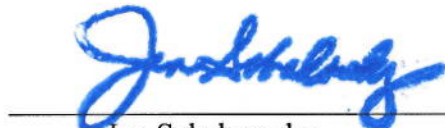
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



David E. Price
Member of Congress



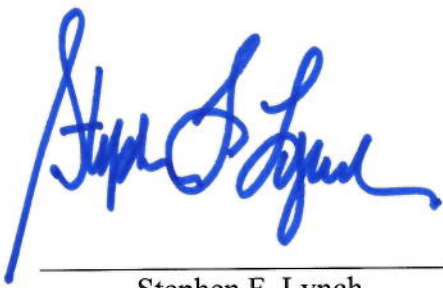
Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



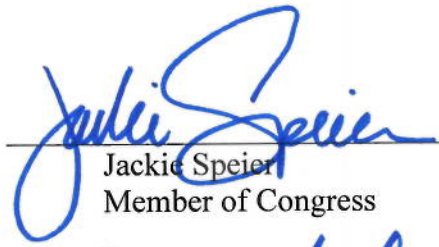
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



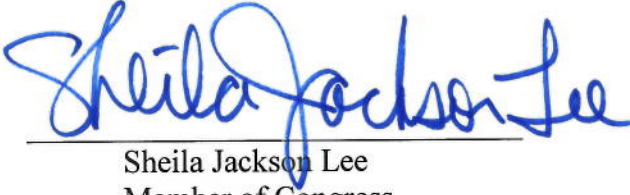
Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



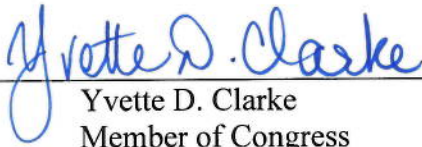
Jackie Speier
Member of Congress



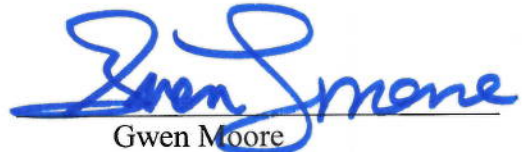
Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



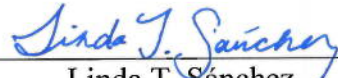
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



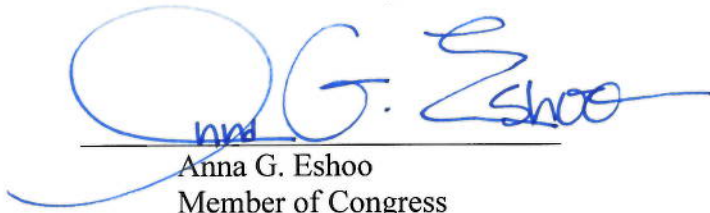
Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



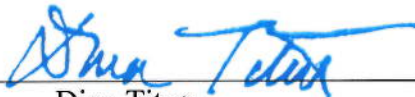
Linda T. Sanchez
Member of Congress



Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress



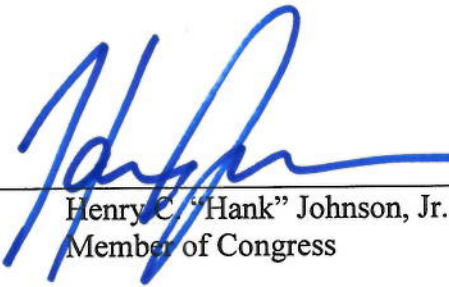
Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress




Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Ted Deutch
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress




Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



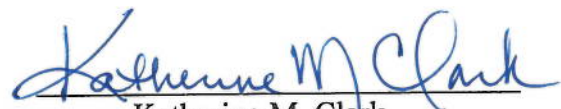
Joseph P. Kennedy, III
Member of Congress



Filemon Vela
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Katherine M. Clark
Member of Congress




Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



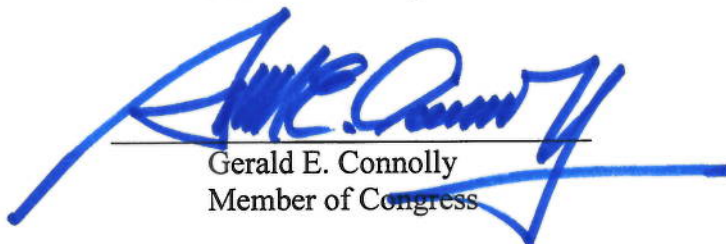
John K. Delaney
Member of Congress



Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress



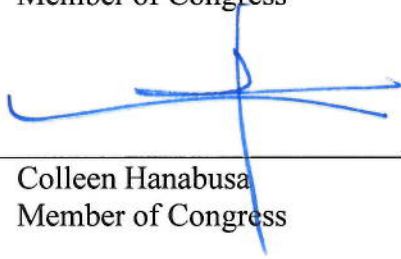
Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



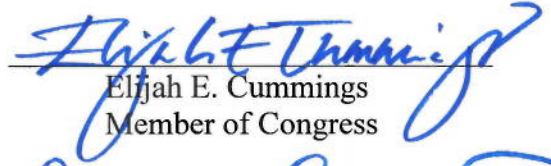
Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel
Member of Congress



Colleen Hanabusa
Member of Congress



Elijah E. Cummings
Member of Congress



Al Lawson, Jr.
Member of Congress