

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 22, 2023

The Honorable Michael S. Regan  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20460

Dear Administrator Regan,

As Members of Congress who are committed to equality for all, we write to encourage you to bargain in good faith with the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) regarding the terms of its collective bargaining agreement, specifically the diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) article.

As you know, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has committed to making equity, environmental justice, and civil rights a centerpiece of the agency's mission. This mission is as timely and critical as ever while our country continues to respond to the ongoing climate crisis and endure repeated attacks against our LGBTQ+ community. Accordingly, for the EPA to perform its mission to the fullest, we believe the agency needs a highly trained, well-supported, diverse and inclusive workforce. Though negotiations between the parties will resolve many different concerns, we encourage each party to negotiate in good faith in reaching a consensus on benefits of employment, as well as training and support programs to foster a vibrant, energized EPA workforce that reflects the breadth and scope of the American people.

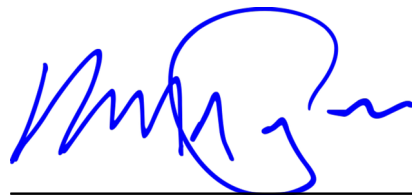
We support President Biden and Vice President Harris in their focus on equity not simply as a fixture of their administration, but the responsibility of the entire federal government, including EPA. Furthermore, as our country works determinedly to address historic climate goals and protect vulnerable communities, we need a strong, dedicated, and diverse EPA workforce to help us reach these objectives. Therefore, we strongly encourage both parties to come together in good faith and negotiate a mutually acceptable resolution that will benefit EPA, its workers, and the American people.

Sincerely,



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Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



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Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



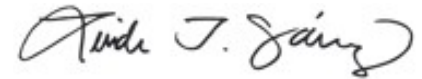
Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



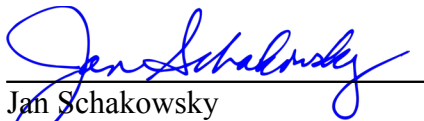
Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



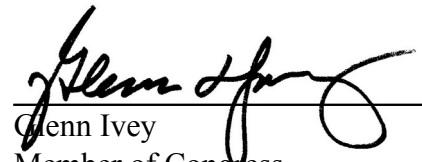
Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



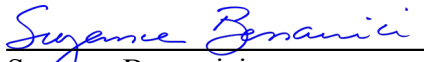
Glenn Ivey  
Member of Congress

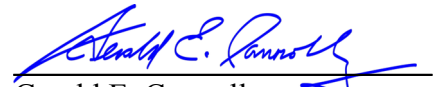



Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress




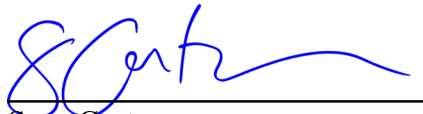
Valerie P. Foushee  
Member of Congress

  
Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress


  
Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress


  
Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress

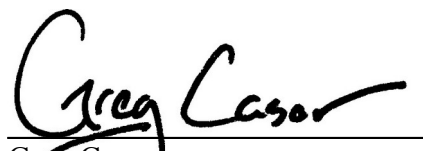
  
Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress

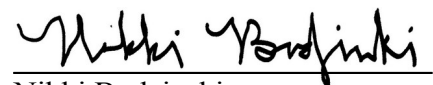
  
Sean Casten  
Member of Congress

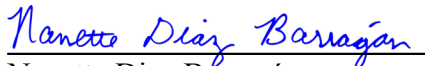
  
Brian Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress

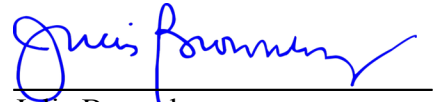
  
Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress


  
Jesús G. "Chuy" García  
Member of Congress


  
Greg Casar  
Member of Congress


  
Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress

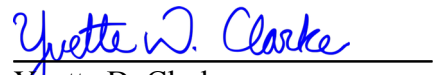
  
Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress

  
Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress


  
Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress


  
Chris Deluzio  
Member of Congress

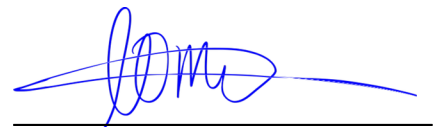
  
Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress

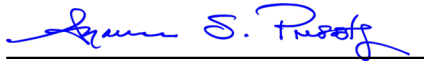
  
Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress

  
Dina Titus  
Member of Congress

  
Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress

  
Adam Smith  
Member of Congress

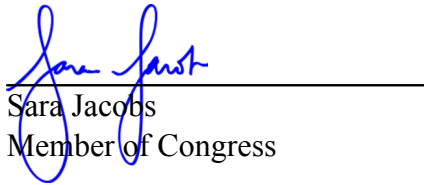
  
Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



Val Hoyle  
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



Elissa Slotkin  
Member of Congress

*Angie Craig*

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Angie Craig  
Member of Congress

*Jamaal Bowman*

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Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.  
Member of Congress