

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 30, 2006

The Honorable Ralph Regula, Chairman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, Health and Human Services and Education
2358 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Regula:

As the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education prepares to mark-up its appropriations bill for fiscal year 2007, we write to encourage you to increase the maximum Pell Grant award.

The maximum appropriated Pell Grant has stayed level at \$4,050 for the past four fiscal years in light of the growing number of Pell Grant recipients and the resulting Pell Grant funding shortfall. As advocates of the Pell Grant program, we thank you for your efforts last year to pay down the Pell Grant shortfall and secure the program for years to come. Now, with the Pell Grant shortfall eliminated and with spending allocations to your Subcommittee increased above the President's budget request this year, we have an opportunity to responsibly increase the maximum award.

As you know, based on President Bush's goal to raise the maximum award to \$4,550 by 2010, the House and Senate approved an increase in the maximum grant to \$4,150 in the FY2006 budget conference report. We were also pleased by your inclusion, and the House-passage, of an increase in the award to \$4,100 in the FY2006 Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations bill. This year, the House passed the College Access and Opportunity Act, which included language passed unanimously in the House Education and the Workforce Committee to increase the authorized maximum award from the current level of \$5,800 to \$6,000.

In light of the program's solid financial footing and the strong, bipartisan support for increasing the Pell Grant, we ask you to help fund an increase in the maximum Pell Grant award in your FY2007 appropriations bill. Pell Grants are the passports out of poverty for millions of American students each year. Increasing the grant will expand college access and help America succeed in the 21st century.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Ric Keller
Member of Congress



Thomas Reynolds
Member of Congress


Albert Wynn
Member of Congress


Sheila Jackson-Lee
Member of Congress


Elijah Cummings
Member of Congress

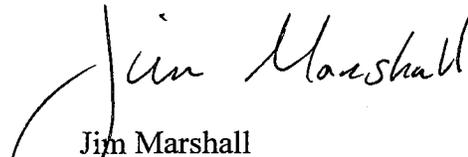

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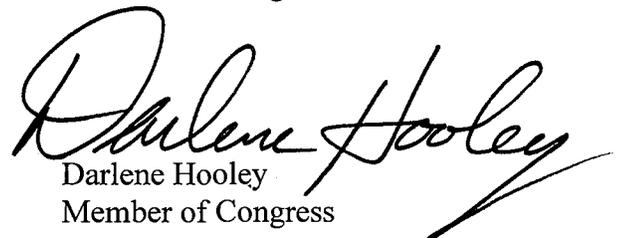

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Tom Osborne
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Julia Carson

Julia Carson
Member of Congress

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Vito Fossella
Member of Congress

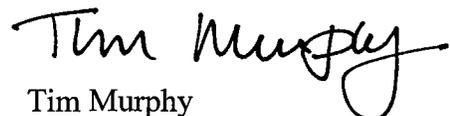

Chaka Fattah
Member of Congress

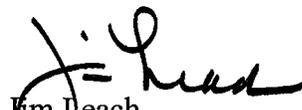

Timothy Johnson
Member of Congress

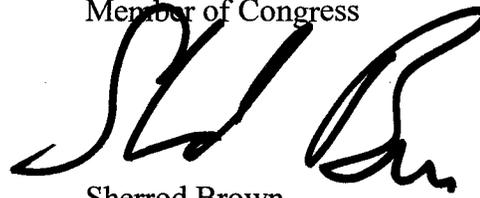

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Member of Congress

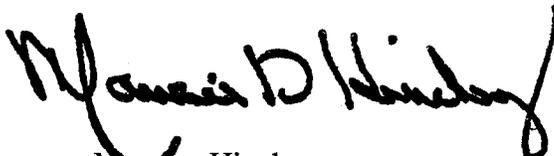

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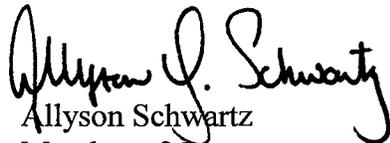

Earl Blumenauer
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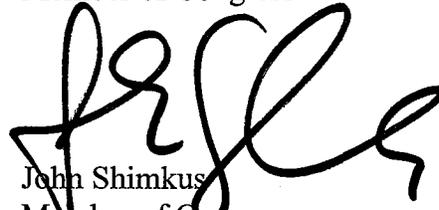

James McGovern
Member of Congress

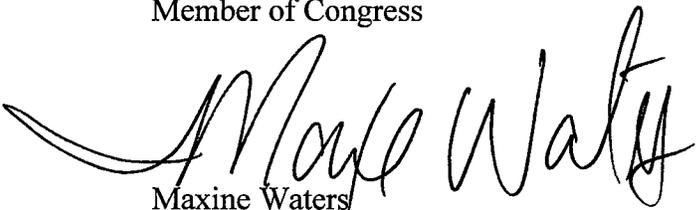

Michael Michaud
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Allyson Schwartz
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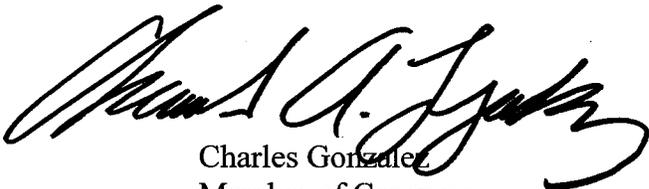

Ron Kind
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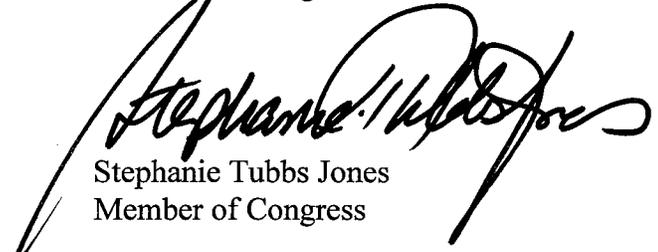

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Jerrold Nadler
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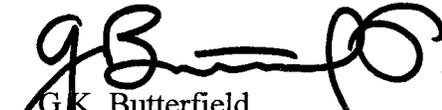
Bob Etheridge
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David Wu
Member of Congress



Ruben Hinojosa
Member of Congress



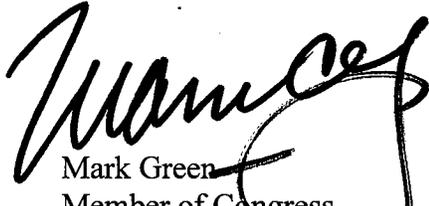
G.K. Butterfield
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Al Green
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Grace F. Napolitano
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Mark Green
Member of Congress



Bobby Rush
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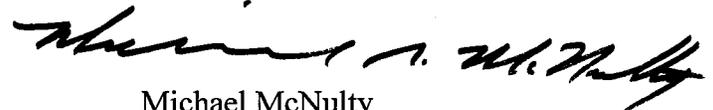
Mark Foley
Member of Congress



Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress



Gene Green
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Michael McNulty
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Artur Davis
Member of Congress



Diane Watson
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Bennie Thompson
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Rush Holt
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Collin Peterson
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Vic Snyder
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Major Owens
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David Reichert
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Susan Davis
Member of Congress

Jon Porter
Member of Congress

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress

Adam Schiff
Member of Congress

Emanuel Cleaver
Member of Congress

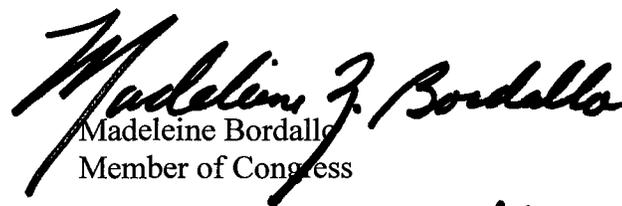
Barbara Lee
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Dennis Moore
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David Scott
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Tom Udall
Member of Congress



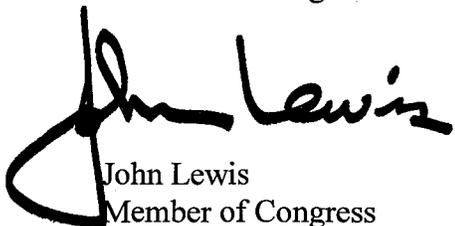
Madeleine Bordallo
Member of Congress



Robert Andrews
Member of Congress



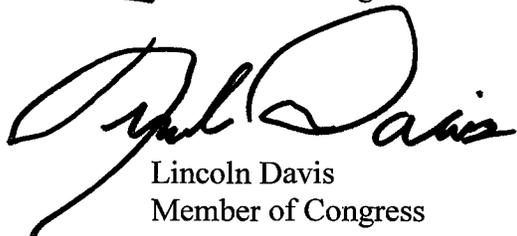
Todd Platts
Member of Congress



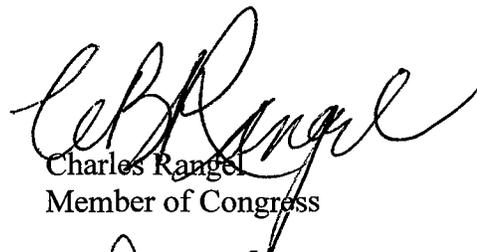
John Lewis
Member of Congress



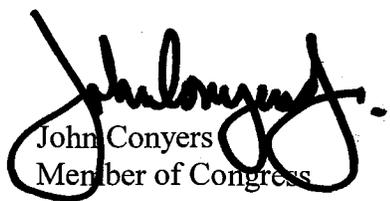
Jim Saxton
Member of Congress



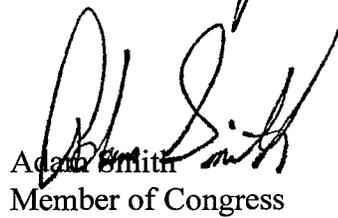
Lincoln Davis
Member of Congress



Charles Rangel
Member of Congress



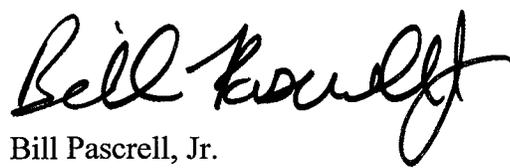
John Conyers
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
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Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



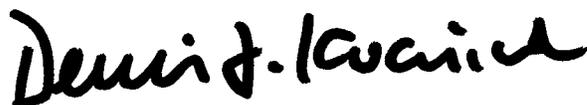
Bill Pascrell, Jr.
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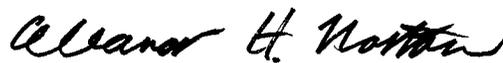
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Ben Chandler
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Dennis Kucinich
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Neil Abercrombie
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Shelley Berkley
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