

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf, Chairman
The Honorable Chaka Fattah, Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Wolf and Ranking Member Fattah:

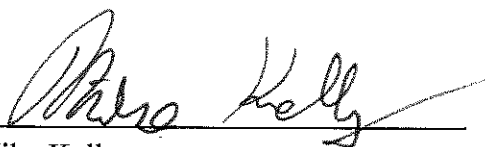
As you work to develop the Fiscal Year 2015 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, we write to express our support for funding necessary to support a robust Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program.

Manufacturing is one of our country's greatest economic strengths, producing 12.5 percent of GDP. Small and mid-sized manufacturers employ nine million workers in the U.S. who earn an average of \$77,505, including pay and benefits. Firms that innovate, invest in continuous improvement and capture global markets are winning in this new economy. Demand for MEP services is greater than ever, and existing MEP centers are in need of these scarce funds to provide critical resources, serve new and existing clients, and create job growth. **Maintaining the FY14 appropriation for MEP in fiscal year 2015 will allow the existing MEP Center network to continue to create jobs and respond to future challenges and opportunities in the manufacturing sector.**


The MEP program's well documented impact is substantial. In fiscal year 2014 alone (based on services provided in 2013), MEP projects with small and medium sized manufacturers created or retained 62,703 jobs, generated more than \$2.2 billion in new sales and provided cost savings of more than \$1.2 billion.

At a time when economic recovery is the national priority, we believe MEP continues to be a wise investment that generates nearly \$19 in new sales growth for every federal dollar invested. **We respectfully request that you continue your strong support for MEP in FY2015 by at least maintaining the FY2014 appropriation level.**

Sincerely,



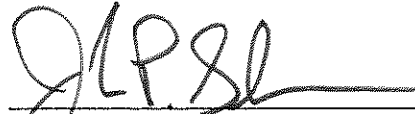
Mike Kelly
Member of Congress
Republican Co-chair, Northeast Midwest
Congressional Coalition



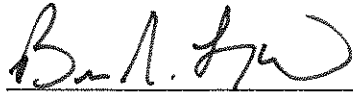
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress
Democrat Co-Chair, Northeast Midwest
Congressional Coalition



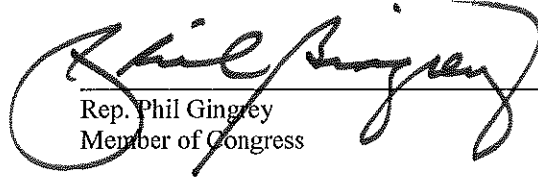
Rep. Keith J. Rothfus
Member of Congress



Rep. John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



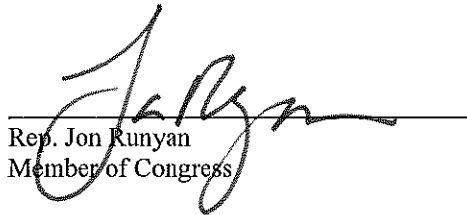
Rep. Ben Ray Luján
Member of Congress



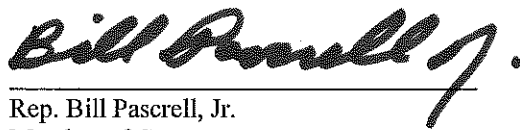
Rep. Phil Gingrey
Member of Congress



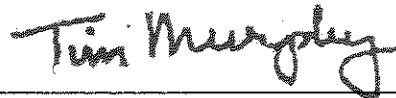
Rep. Gloria Negrete McLeod
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Rep. Jon Runyan
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Rep. Bill Pascrell, Jr.
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Rep. Tim Murphy
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Rep. Chellie Pingree
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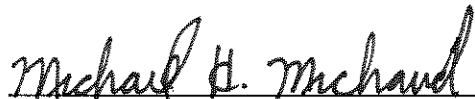
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Rep. Patrick Murphy
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Rep. Leonard Lance
Member of Congress



Rep. Michael H. Michaud
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Rep. Pedro R. Pierluisi
Member of Congress



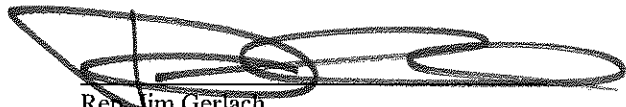
Rep. Michael G. Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Rep. David Loeb sack
Member of Congress



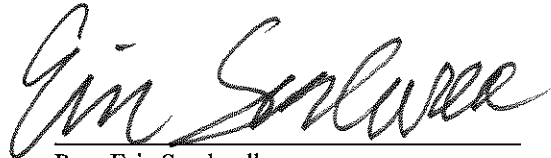
Rep. Ron Kind
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Rep. Jim Gerlach
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Rep. Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



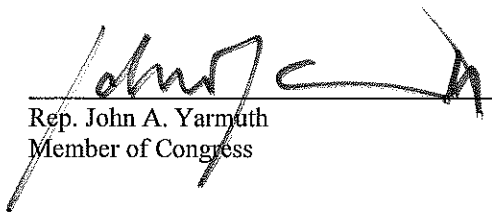
Rep. Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



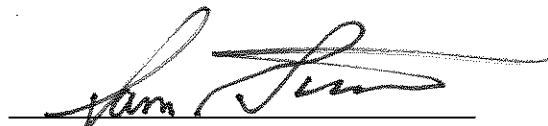
Rep. Rosa L. DeLauro
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Rep. Corrine Brown
Member of Congress



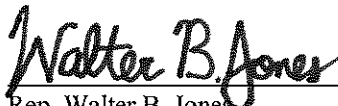
Rep. John A. Yarmuth
Member of Congress



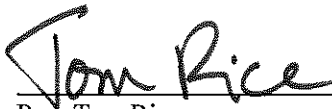
Rep. Sam Graves
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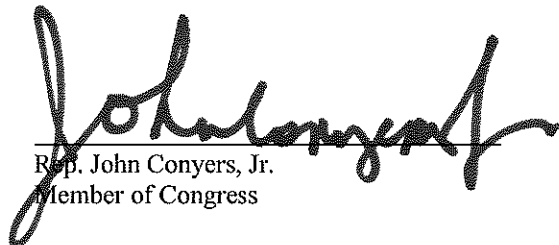
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Rep. John D. Dingell
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Rep. C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger
Member of Congress



Rep. Niki Tsongas
Member of Congress



Rep. Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress



Rep. Pete P. Gallego
Member of Congress



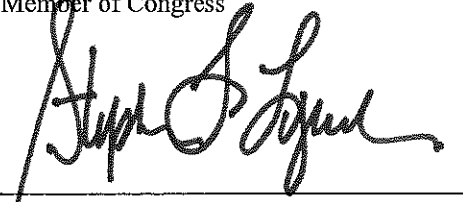
Rep. Cheri Bustos
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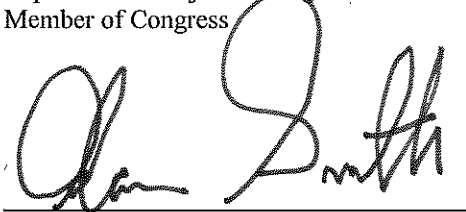
Rep. Mark Pocan
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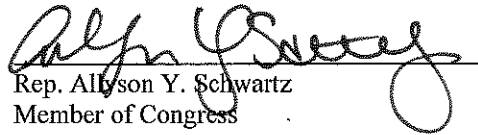
Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham
Member of Congress



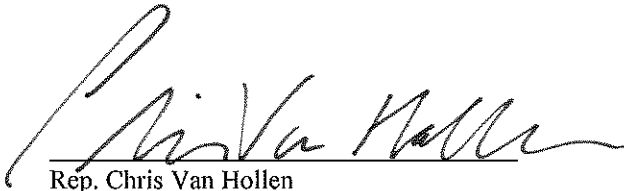
Rep. Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



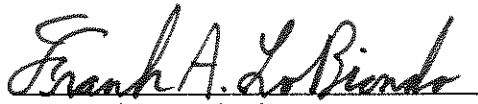
Rep. Adam Smith
Member of Congress



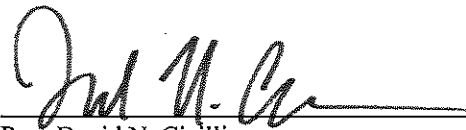
Rep. Allison Y. Schwartz
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Rep. Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



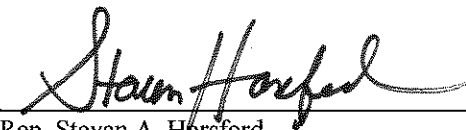
Rep. Frank A. LoBiondo
Member of Congress



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Member of Congress




Rep. Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Rep. Steven A. Horsford
Member of Congress



Rep. Gwen Moore
Member of Congress



Rep. Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress



Rep. Paul Tonko
Member of Congress



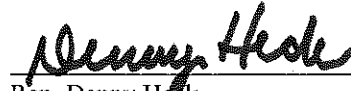
Rep. Suzanne Bonamici
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Rep. Peter Welch
Member of Congress



Rep. David Scott
Member of Congress



Rep. Denny Heck
Member of Congress



Rep. Matt Cartwright
Member of Congress



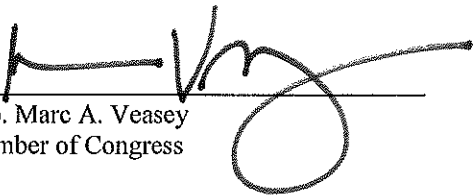
Rep. John K. Delaney
Member of Congress



Rep. Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



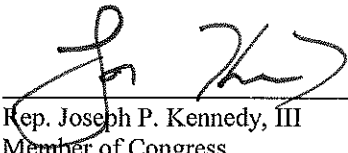
Rep. William L. Owens
Member of Congress



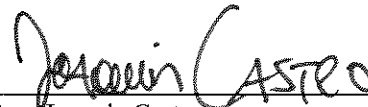
Rep. Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



Rep. Katherine Clark
Member of Congress



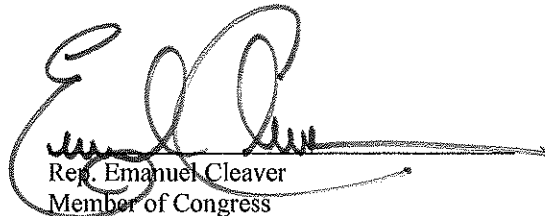
Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy, III
Member of Congress



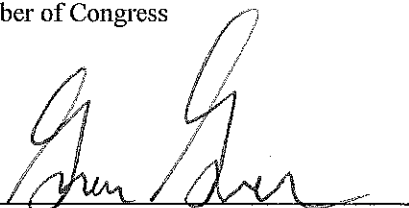
Rep. Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



Rep. Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress



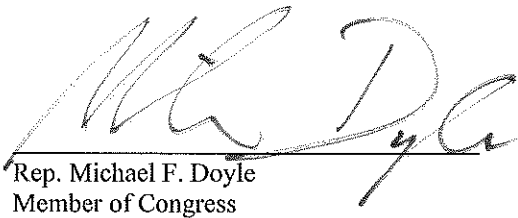
Rep. Emanuel Cleaver
Member of Congress



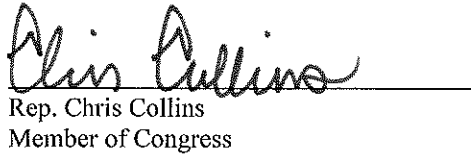
Rep. Gene Green
Member of Congress

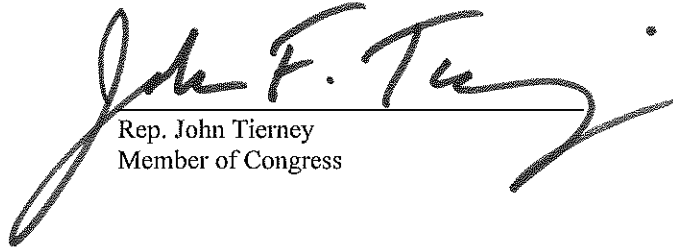


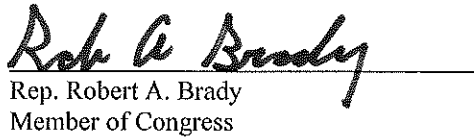
Rep. Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress

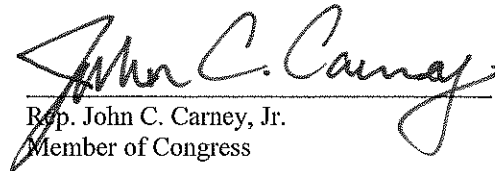

Rep. Michael F. Doyle
Member of Congress

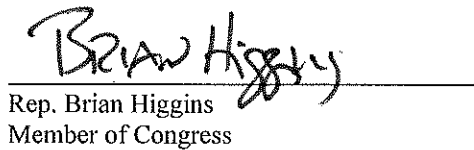

Rep. Ann M. Kuster
Member of Congress


Rep. Chris Collins
Member of Congress

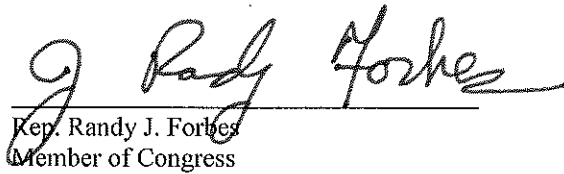

Rep. John Tierney
Member of Congress

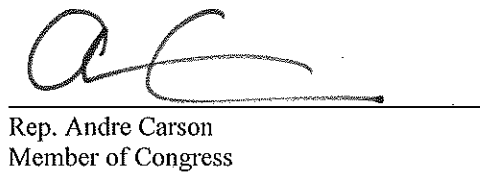

Rep. Robert A. Brady
Member of Congress

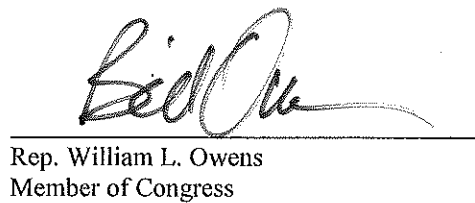

Rep. John C. Carney, Jr.
Member of Congress

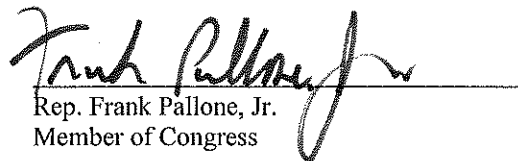

Rep. Brian Higgins
Member of Congress


Rep. James R. Langevin
Member of Congress


Rep. Randy J. Forbes
Member of Congress


Rep. Andre Carson
Member of Congress


Rep. William L. Owens
Member of Congress


Rep. Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress


Rep. Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress


Rep. Gabe Gabbard
Member of Congress


Rep. Tony Cardenas
Member of Congress