

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

November 3, 2009

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Defense
Senate Dirksen Office Building, Rm 119
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Defense
Senate Dirksen Office Building, Rm 119
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Murtha
Chairman
Subcommittee on Defense
H-149, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable C.W. Bill Young
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Defense
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen Inouye and Murtha and Ranking Members Cochran and Young:

On behalf of the millions of Americans touched each year by ovarian cancer, we are writing to express our strong support for increased funding for the Department of Defense Ovarian Cancer Research Program. We respectfully request that the Conference Committee on the FY 2010 Defense Appropriations Bill allocate the House passed level of \$25 million for the Ovarian Cancer Research Program (OCRP) in FY10.

One in 71 women will develop ovarian cancer, and less than half will survive for five years. A woman dies of ovarian cancer every hour. It is expected that more than 22,000 women will be diagnosed with the disease this year and more than 15,000 women will die from ovarian cancer in 2009. Adequately funding the DoD OCRP is essential to our country's fight against this deadly disease – the fifth leading cause of cancer death among American women. With this devastating mortality rate, our health care system cannot afford to not increase the Federal funding for this program; therefore we support the House passed level of \$25 million for FY10.

Since 1998, research conducted through the DoD OCRP has contributed 246 publications and 274 abstracts, serving to bolster and expand the limited body of scientific knowledge of ovarian cancer. Perhaps most significantly, the DoD OCRP is responsible for the recruitment of 28 new investigators and the development of nine patents. This wealth of scientific accomplishments would enjoy significant growth with expanded funding. Consistently, the DoD OCRP funds less than 15 percent of the successful research proposals due to insufficient funds.

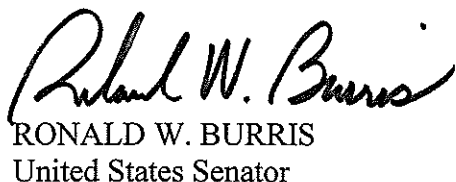
Today, ovarian cancer researchers are still struggling to develop the first ovarian cancer screening test. With traditional research models largely unsuccessful, the innovative grants awarded by the DoD OCRP are integral in moving the field of research forward. And while we

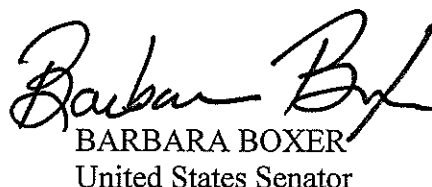
recognize that Congress has the difficult job of setting priorities among our nation's many needs, with a record of success and a growing core of investigators who are contributing vital knowledge to improving prevention, early diagnosis, and survival rates from ovarian cancer, the DoD Ovarian Cancer Research Program is making a difference in the lives of millions of Americans, including the family members of our active duty military. Thank you again for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

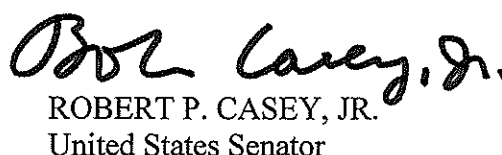

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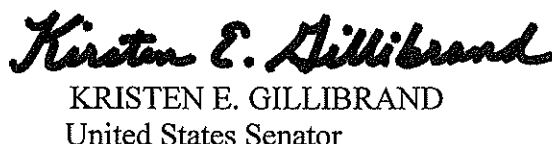

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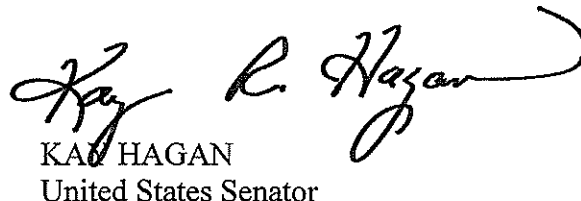

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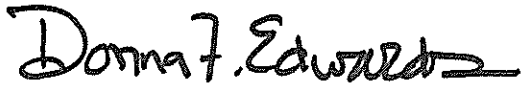
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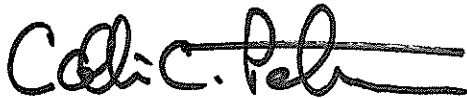
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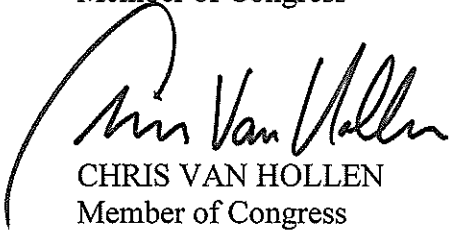
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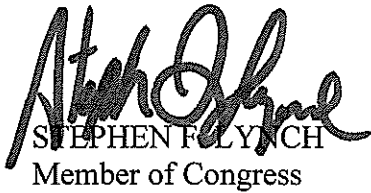
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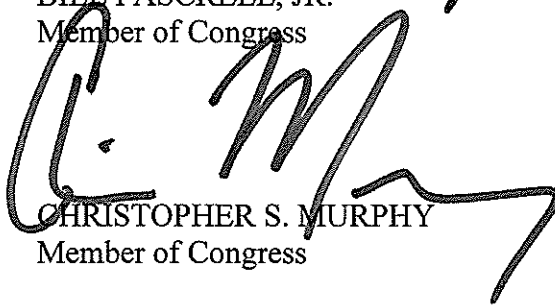
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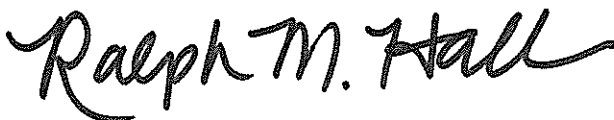
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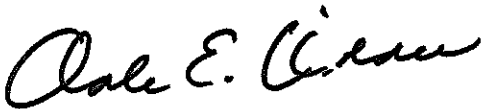
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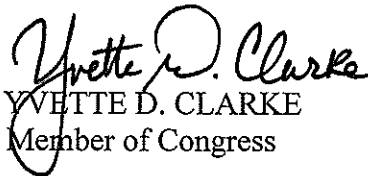
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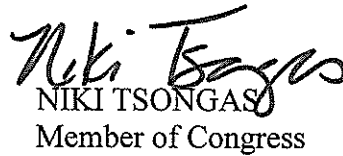
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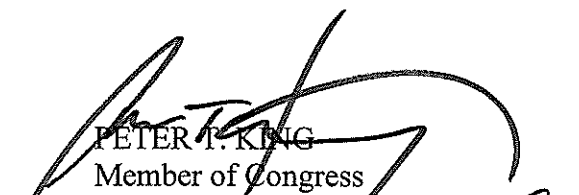
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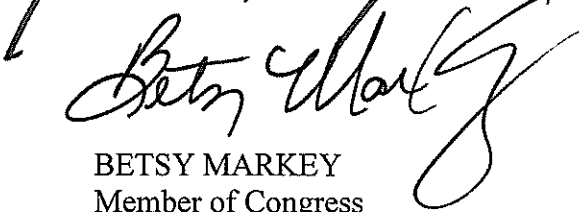
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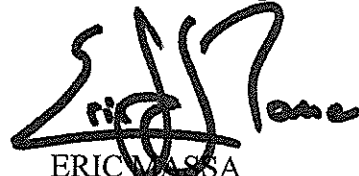
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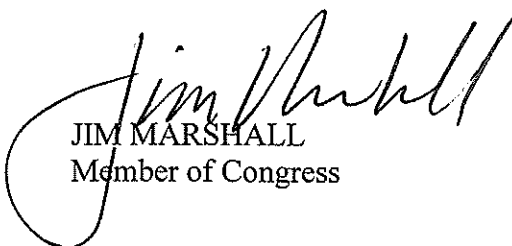
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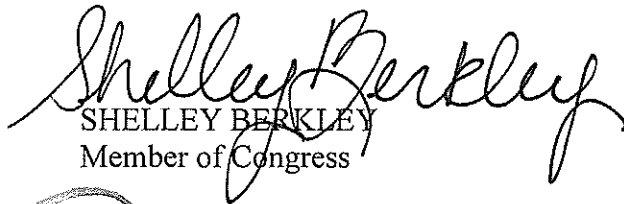
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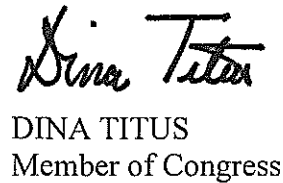


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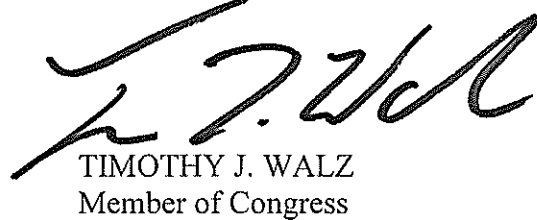

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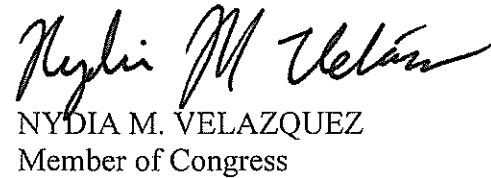

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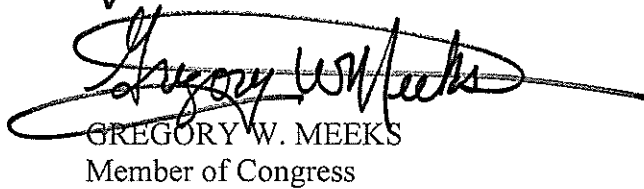

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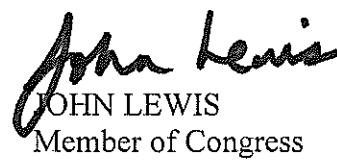

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