

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 25, 2015

Chairman Tom Cole
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, HHS and Education
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Labor, HHS and Education
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As you consider the Fiscal Year 2016 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill, we write to request that the bill include, at a minimum, the President's requested level of \$278 million for the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB).

Each year, thousands of individuals, employers and unions are negatively impacted by unfair labor practices to the detriment of wages, the economy, small businesses, and the community. Our primary goal must be to promote good jobs for the middle-class, and the NLRB plays an important role leveling the playing field for workers and employers by safeguarding employees' right to free association and collective bargaining. This is done by:

- 1) Investigating, prosecuting, and deciding unfair labor practices as defined in the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA);
- 2) Providing the legal framework for employees to organize in their workplaces, including holding representation elections, in order to bargain collectively for better wages and working conditions.

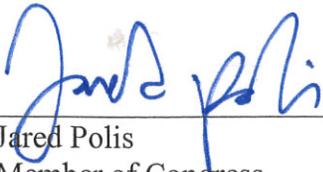
Under the NLRA the NLRB is tasked with protecting the rights of private-sector workers to act collectively without fear of coercion, threats, or firing. It is necessary to fully fund the President's budget request in order to fully accomplish this task and enforce the NLRA as required by Congress. As our economy and technology continues to evolve and workers exercise their voice in the workplace, often using new technological methods and while working for multiple employers, the Board is confronted with new challenges in its commitment to protecting workers' rights. The NLRB requires additional resources to effectively adjudicate and protect workers in these increasingly complex situations, which include:

- Nationwide efforts to improve the wages and working conditions of workers in various industries, including retail and fast food;
- Issues concerning single, joint, and successor employer relationships;
- Investigation of the tens of thousands of unfair labor practice charges filed annually, and prompt adjudication of the meritorious cases.

An effective NLRB is important for American workers to exercise their right of free association. By banding together and bargaining collectively, workers receive better wages, better benefits,

and safer workplaces. Any funding level below \$278 million would have a negative impact on individuals and families across the country in every single Congressional District. We urge you to provide no less than the President's requested funding level in the FY 2016 Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations bill.

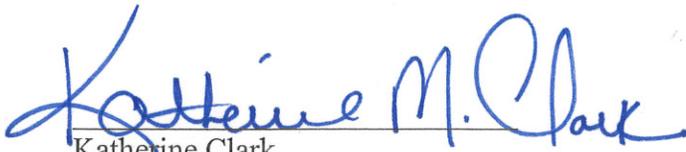
Sincerely,



Jared Polis
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Katherine Clark
Member of Congress



Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress



Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



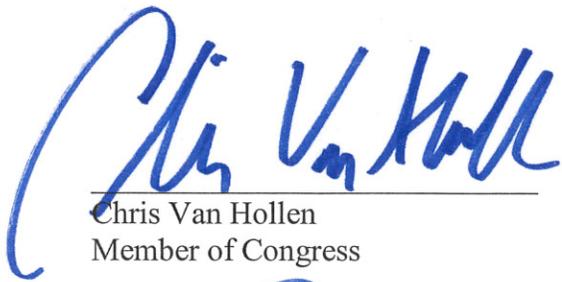
Ron Kind
Member of Congress



Sander Levin
Member of Congress



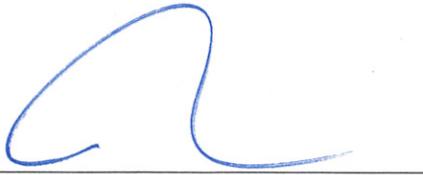
Cheri Bustos
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Chris Van Hollen
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Frederica Wilson
Member of Congress



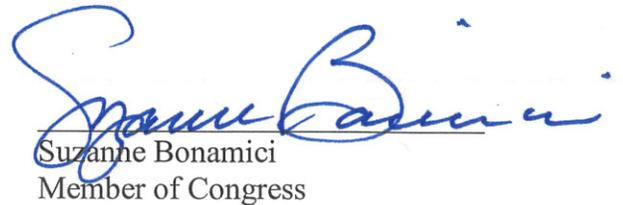
John Delaney
Member of Congress



Marcia Fudge
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Albio Sires
Member of Congress



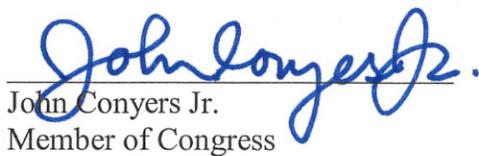
Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



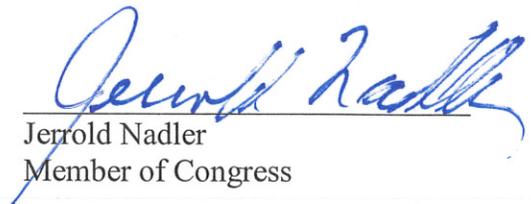
Raul Grijalva
Member of Congress



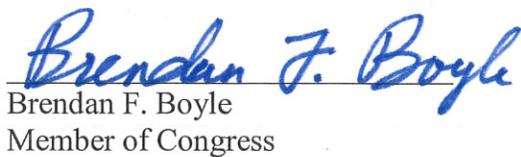
Eleanor Holmes Norton
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John Conyers Jr.
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Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



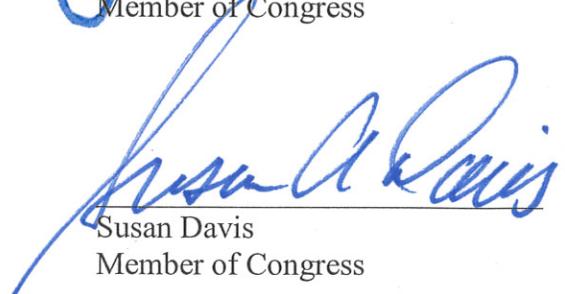
Brendan F. Boyle
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Matt Cartwright
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Susan Davis
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Keith Ellison
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Mark DeSaulnier
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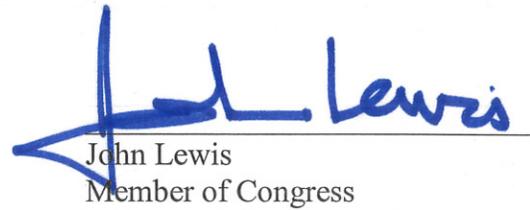
Donald Norcross
Member of Congress



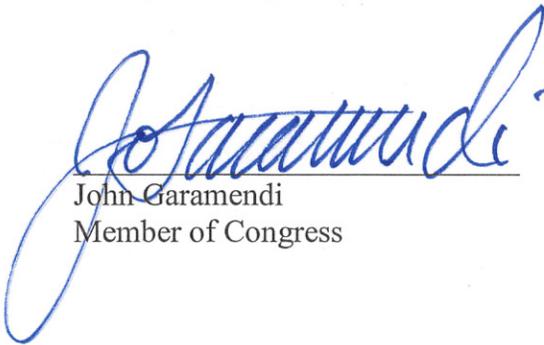
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



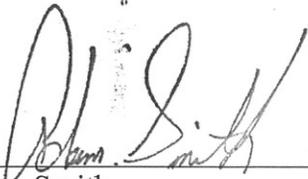
Brian Higgins
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John Lewis
Member of Congress



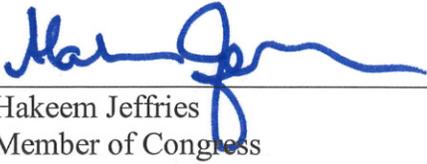
John Garamendi
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Adam Smith
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Brenda L. Lawrence
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Hakeem Jeffries
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