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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0301

**COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND GOVERNMENT REFORM**

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HEALTH CARE AND ENTITLEMENTS

NATIONAL SECURITY

ECONOMIC GROWTH, JOB CREATION,
AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

**COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES**

SUBCOMMITTEES

ENERGY AND MINERALS

INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE AFFAIRS

WATER AND POWER

March 25, 2015

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Culberson
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, and Science
House Appropriations Committee
H-309, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chaka Fattah
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, and Science
House Appropriations Committee
1016 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Rogers and Culberson and Ranking Members Lowey and Fattah:

As you consider the Fiscal Year 2016 Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations bill, we urge you to appropriate adequate resources to the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) at a level appropriate to effectively execute the program's purpose.

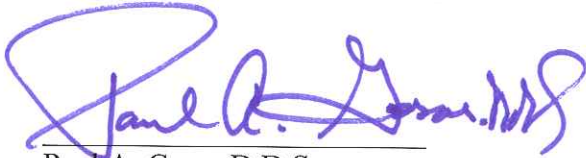
As you know, SCAAP is a grant program that reimburses states and local governments for the cost of incarcerating undocumented immigrants convicted of crimes. By law, the federal government is ultimately responsible for immigration enforcement, including the incarceration of undocumented criminal offenders. When this is not possible, the law requires the federal government to compensate state and local governments for their incarceration costs.

Although appropriations levels for SCAAP have decreased dramatically in recent years, the costs incurred by states to fulfill what is essentially a federal function have increased. We cannot afford to reduce resources for this vital program, which already falls far short of what states and local governments actually spend to incarcerate undocumented criminal offenders. Reducing federal SCAAP reimbursements forces state and local law enforcement agencies to absorb a greater portion of the costs of a federal responsibility.

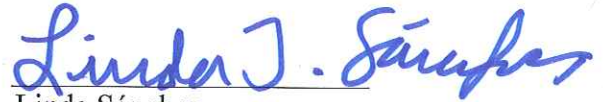
We recognize the challenges of the current fiscal environment and thank you for your effort and dutiful consideration of FY 2016 appropriations priorities. We respectfully ask that that the

benefits of SCAAP to our local jurisdictions be carefully considered and that the program be appropriated at a level consistent with its federally mandated responsibility.

Sincerely,



Paul A. Gosar D.D.S.
Member of Congress



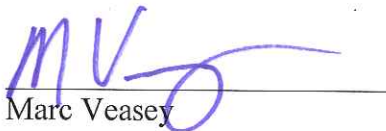
Linda Sánchez
Member of Congress



Trent Franks
Member of Congress



Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress



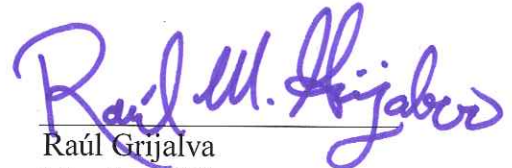
Marc Veasey
Member of Congress



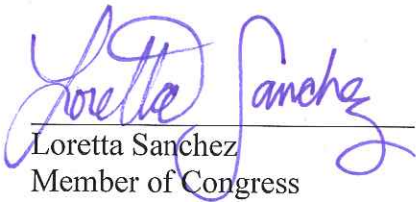
Ann Kirkpatrick
Member of Congress



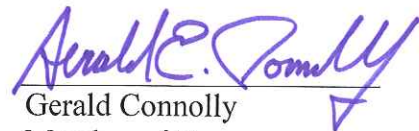
Martha McSally
Member of Congress



Raúl Grijalva
Member of Congress



Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress



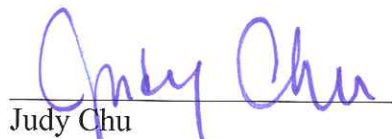
Gerald Connolly
Member of Congress



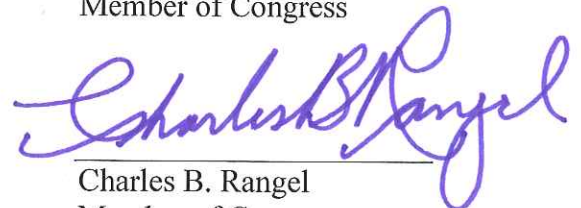
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



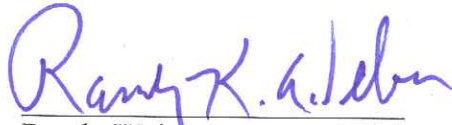
Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa
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Filemon Vela
Member of Congress



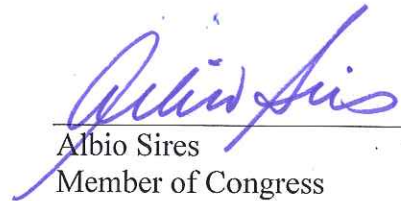
Randy Weber
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Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



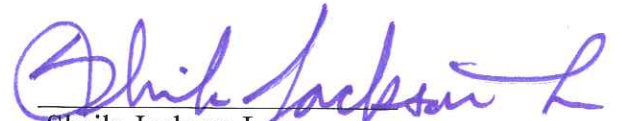
Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



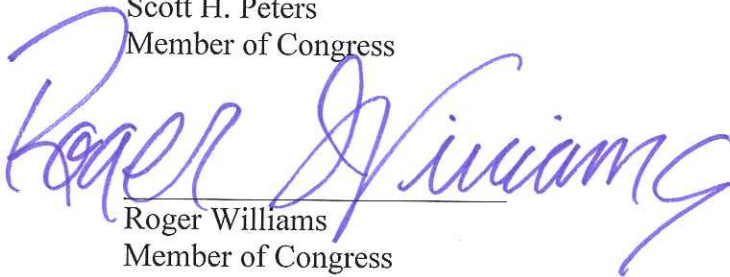
Albio Sires
Member of Congress



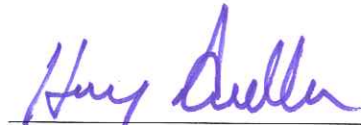
Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



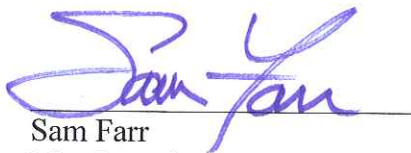
Sheila Jackson Lee
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Roger Williams
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Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress



Sam Farr
Member of Congress



Lois Capps
Member of Congress



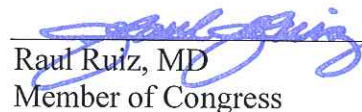
Dana Rohrabacher
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Mark DeSaulnier
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Will Hurd
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Raul Ruiz, MD
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Pete Olson

Pete Olson
Member of Congress

Paul Cook

Paul Cook
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Mo Brooks

Mo Brooks
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Grace F. Napolitano

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Karen Bass

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Barbara Lee

Barbara Lee
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Xavier Becerra

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Brad Sherman

Brad Sherman
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Adam B Schiff

Adam Schiff
Member of Congress