

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20510

October 20, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

As House Republicans, we write because we refuse to stand by and watch as your Administration dilutes America's ability to ensure the safe and efficient movement of goods, people, and services throughout our transportation network. House Republicans have repeatedly demonstrated a willingness to work on bipartisan solutions to improve our infrastructure. We regret that our efforts have been spurned as Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Schumer, and your Administration use infrastructure as a Trojan horse to push radical policies that make it more difficult and expensive for families to find or afford basic goods and for businesses to continue the long road to recovery from the pandemic.

We must address the global supply chain and ports crisis before Congress even considers additional social spending and taxation legislation. Our priority right now should be strengthening our Nation's economy and increasing our global competitiveness. The policies of your Presidency and party's leaders in Congress are exacerbating or simply ignoring the underlying supply chain crisis. These policies include the mishandling of the COVID response in ways that are prolonging unemployment and worker shortages across the economy, to your push for a multi-trillion-dollar spending spree that is driving up prices of everything from gas to groceries. These efforts only serve to weaken American competitiveness and shrink our economy, and they will certainly ensure that this Christmas will not be merry.

The current supply chain crisis exposes how close to its limit our transportation system operates. There is little redundant capacity. Once bottlenecks develop, cargo backs up and remains stranded offshore on ships that overcrowd the coastline, creating additional safety and environmental risks. For example, clustering a large number of container ships waiting to be unloaded increases the risk of large anchors damaging our underwater infrastructure, such as pipelines. This unfortunately was likely the case with the recent Huntington Beach oil spill.<sup>1</sup> Rather than responding to an oil spill, prevention is the best way to avoid environmental damage. We believe this environmental and economic harm could have been avoided in the first place had this Congress and this Administration remained focused on our core transportation network assets. Yet, this oil spill is emblematic of the harm your party's policies are creating for America's broader infrastructure network and the economy.

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<sup>1</sup> Stefanie Dazio, Matthew Brown And Brian Melley, *Evidence suggests ship anchor snagged, dragged oil pipeline*, (Oct. 5, 2021), ASSOCIATED PRESS, available at <https://apnews.com/article/oil-spills-business-us-coast-guard-california-environment-and-nature-689c95910d1035e1c658664521ae4dfa>.

Moreover, despite calls from the private sector for help addressing growing supply chain issues, like expanding capacity, your Administration has only further fueled the crisis by increasing energy costs, triggering significant inflation through reckless unchecked spending, and attacking American businesses. Ironically, it is now the private sector that you are calling on to “step up” and fix the supply chain problems.<sup>2</sup>

Mr. President, we think it’s time that you step up and reevaluate your Administration’s priorities. While many in both business and labor have agreed to step up, House Republicans are calling on you, your Administration, and your allies in Congress to do the same. Your Administration must step up for American workers and businesses by halting your reckless tax and spending plan currently pending before Congress. We request that you stop the litany of harmful regulatory actions that are driving up energy costs and to stop disarming the same American businesses you are asking to bail you out with vaccine mandates and excessive benefits that are disincentivizing work. While you might not be able to save this holiday season, you can reverse course and prevent further economic damage.

Further consideration of your massive expansion of social spending, paid for by anti-competitive tax increases on small businesses and families, only stands to worsen the supply chain crisis. We urge you to call on your Congressional allies to halt discussions on a budget reconciliation bill that aims to reshape the social fabric of this country and instead work on real infrastructure solutions that focus on moving goods and people safely and efficiently throughout our great country and around the world.

Sincerely,



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Sam Graves  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Transportation and  
Infrastructure



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Bruce Westerman  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Natural Resources



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Kevin McCarthy  
House Republican Leader

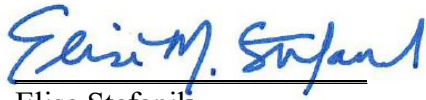


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Steve Scalise  
House Republican Whip

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<sup>2</sup> Presidential Statement on Efforts to Address Global Transportation Supply Chain Bottlenecks, (Oct. 13, 2012), available at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2021/10/13/remarks-by-president-biden-on-supply-chain-bottlenecks/>.



Elise Stefanik  
House Republican Chair



Jason Smith  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Budget



Glenn "GT" Thompson  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Agriculture



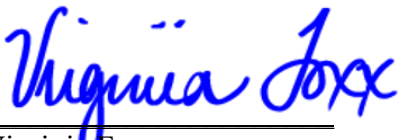
Frank Lucas  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Science, Space, and  
Technology




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Virginia Foxx  
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Committee on Education and Labor



Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
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Committee on Energy and Commerce



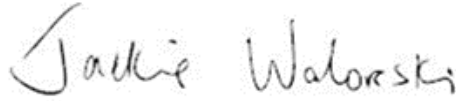
Jim Jordan  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary



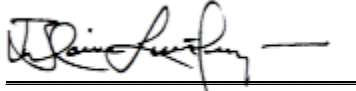
Mike D. Rogers  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Armed Service



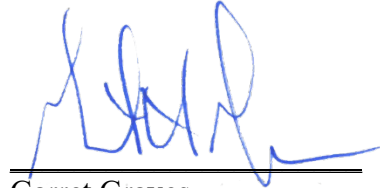
Mike Bost  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Veterans' Affairs



Jackie Walorski  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Ethics



Blaine Luetkemeyer  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Small Business



Garret Graves  
Ranking Member  
Select Committee on Climate



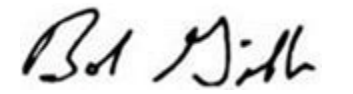
Tom Cole  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Rules



Devin Nunes  
Ranking Member  
Permanent Select Committee  
on Intelligence



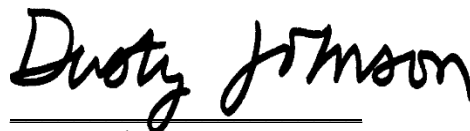
A. Drew Ferguson, IV.  
Member of Congress



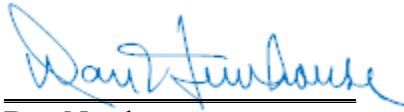
Bob Gibbs  
Member of Congress



Tim Burchett  
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Dusty Johnson  
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Dan Newhouse  
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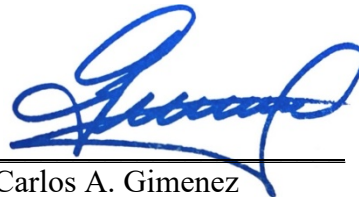
Michael C. Burgess, M.D.  
Member of Congress



David Rouzer  
Member of Congress



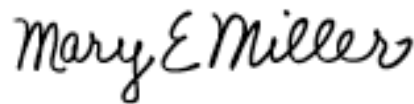
Jeff Van Drew  
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Carlos A. Gimenez  
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Mary E. Miller  
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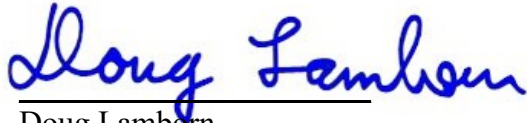
Earl L. "Buddy" Carter  
Member of Congress



Nancy Mace  
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Tom Emmer  
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Doug Lamborn  
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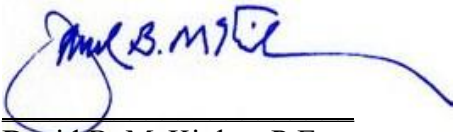
Rick W. Allen  
Member of Congress



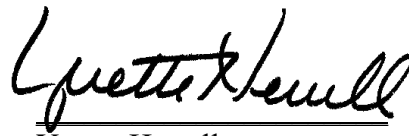
Steve Chabot  
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Doug LaMalfa  
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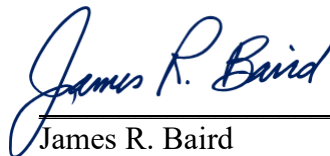
David B. McKinley, P.E.  
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Mike Kelly  
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Daniel Webster  
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Lisa McClain  
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Brian Mast  
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Jack Bergman  
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Ted Budd  
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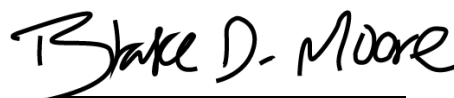
Guy Reschenthaler  
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Brian Babin, D.D.S.  
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Tom McClintock  
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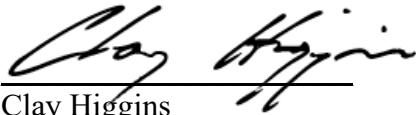
Blake Moore  
Member of Congress



Roger Williams  
Member of Congress



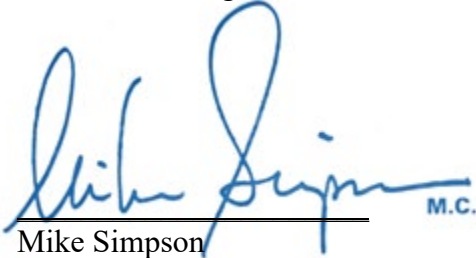
Mario Diaz-Balart  
Member of Congress



Clay Higgins  
Member of Congress



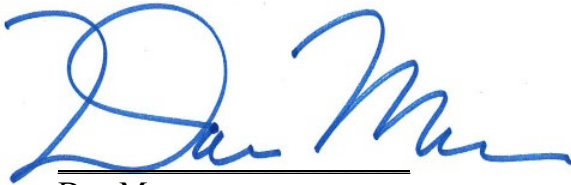
Greg Pence  
Member of Congress



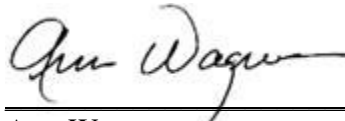
Mike Simpson  
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David Kustoff  
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Pete Stauber  
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Andy Biggs  
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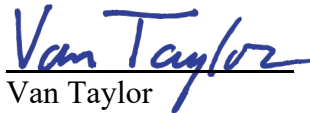
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Jerry L. Carl  
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Scott Fitzgerald  
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Adrian Smith  
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Van Taylor  
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John Joyce  
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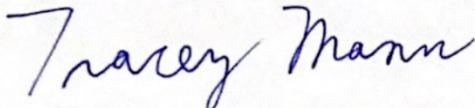
Jim Hagedorn  
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Burgess Owens  
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Fred Keller  
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Tracey Mann  
Member of Congress



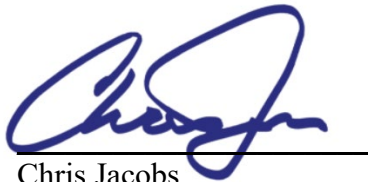
Carol D. Miller  
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Steven M. Palazzo  
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Mike Johnson  
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Chris Jacobs  
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David G. Valadao  
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Mike Gallagher  
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Ken Calvert  
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Glenn Grothman  
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Jodey C. Arrington  
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Kevin Hern  
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Bill Johnson  
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Austin Scott  
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Peter Meijer  
Member of Congress



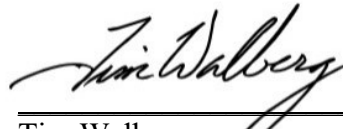
Maria Elvira Salazar  
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Beth Van Duyne  
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Tim Walberg  
Member of Congress



Richard Hudson  
Member of Congress



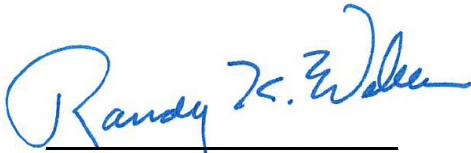
Stephanie Bice  
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Mo Brooks  
Member of Congress



Eric A. "Rick" Crawford  
Member of Congress



Randy K. Weber  
Member of Congress



Nicole Malliotakis  
Member of Congress



Kat Cammack  
Kat Cammack  
Member of Congress



Vicky Hartzler  
Vicky Hartzler  
Member of Congress




Russ Fulcher  
Russ Fulcher  
Member of Congress



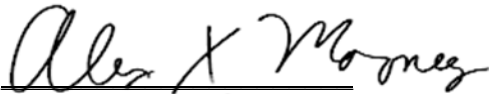
Scott DeJarlais  
Scott DeJarlais  
Member of Congress



Debbie Lesko  
Debbie Lesko  
Member of Congress



Barry Moore  
Barry Moore  
Member of Congress



Alex X. Mooney  
Alex X. Mooney  
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Barry Loudermilk  
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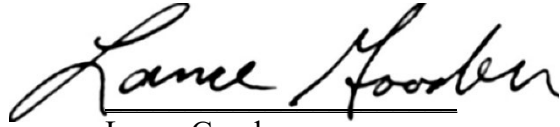
William R. Timmons  
William Timmons  
Member of Congress



Bryan Steil  
Bryan Steil  
Member of Congress



Brett Guthrie  
Member of Congress



Lance Gooden  
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson  
Member of Congress



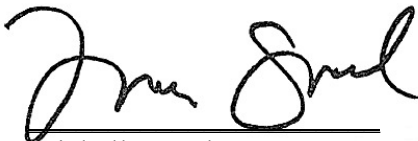
Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.  
Member of Congress



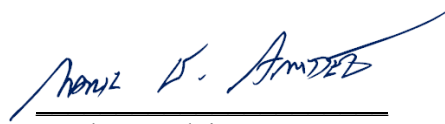
C. Scott Franklin  
Member of Congress



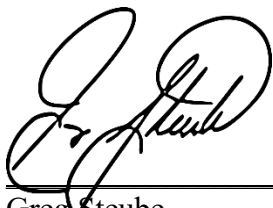
Lee Zeldin  
Member of Congress



Michelle Steel  
Member of Congress



Mark Amodei  
Member of Congress



Greg Steube  
Member of Congress



Ben Cline  
Member of Congress



Young Kim  
Member of Congress



Vern Buchanan  
Member of Congress



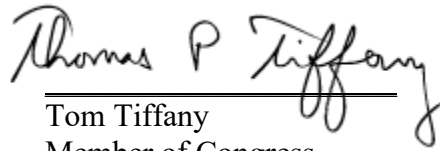
Julia Letlow  
Member of Congress



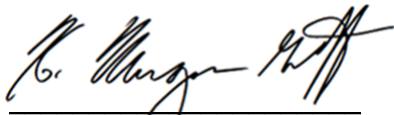
Troy Nehls  
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz  
Member of Congress



Tom Tiffany  
Member of Congress



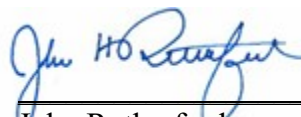
H. Morgan Griffith  
Member of Congress



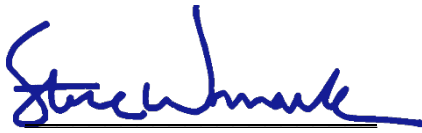
Bill Posey  
Member of Congress



Mark Green, M.D.  
Member of Congress



John Rutherford  
Member of Congress



Steve Womack  
Member of Congress



Chris Stewart  
Member of Congress



Lauren Boebert  
Member of Congress



Gary Palmer  
Member of Congress



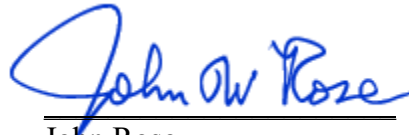
Diana Harshbarger  
Member of Congress



Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon  
Member of Congress



Madison Cawthorn  
Member of Congress



John Rose  
Member of Congress



Victoria Spartz  
Member of Congress



Pete Sessions  
Member of Congress





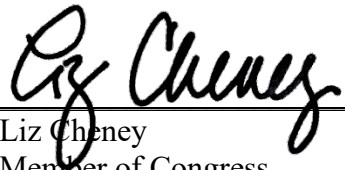
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Markwayne Mullin  
Member of Congress



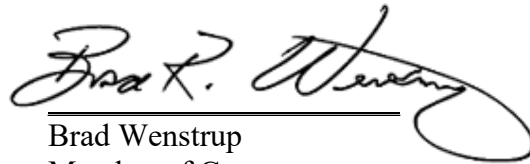
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Jay Obernolte  
Member of Congress



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Liz Cheney  
Member of Congress



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Brad Wenstrup  
Member of Congress



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French Hill  
Member of Congress



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Robert E. Latta  
Member of Congress



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Matt Rosendale  
Member of Congress



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Michael Waltz  
Member of Congress



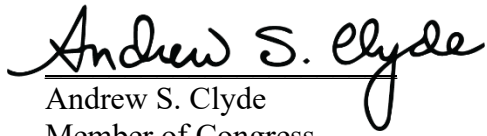
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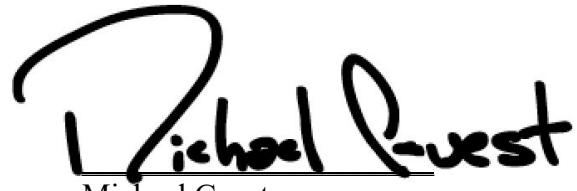
Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen  
Member of Congress




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Michelle Fischbach  
Member of Congress


  
Andrew S. Clyde  
Member of Congress

  
Michael Guest  
Member of Congress

  
Darin LaHood  
Member of Congress

  
Jody Hice  
Member of Congress

  
David P. Joyce  
Member of Congress

  
Hal Rogers  
Member of Congress

Cc: The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation