

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3302

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chair
Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services, Education
and Related Agencies
2358-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services, Education
and Related Agencies
1036 Longworth Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As you draft your Fiscal Year 2027 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we request that you fund the U.S. Department of Education's International Education and Foreign Language Studies account by \$85,664,000, including \$75,353,000 for HEA-Title VI and \$10,311,000 for Fulbright-Hays 102(b)(6). This is the same amount repurposed by the U.S. Department of Education to other unrelated programs in FY 2025, thereby cancelling roughly 350 grants for Title VI including over 1500 FLAS fellowships, and 185 pending Fulbright-Hays awards.

The longstanding bipartisan HEA-Title VI and Fulbright-Hays programs have helped our nation develop a strong comprehensive and multifaceted foundation in international education, research, and world language studies, especially in the less-commonly taught languages that hold special strategic interest for our national defense, diplomatic presence around the world, and global economic competitiveness, among other areas.

As shortfalls of language and cultural skills persist in the U.S. military, diplomatic, and intelligence communities, our nation's language deficit will threaten our priorities and missions around the globe. Simultaneously, as U.S. businesses and their clientele continue to globalize their operations, a workforce with language skills, cultural knowledge, and international experience will be imperative to compete successfully in global markets.

Without these programs, the steady supply of experts in over 200 languages, all world areas, and international business will not be replenished on a regular basis if dependent on state funding, university endowments, foundation grants or institutional support alone. Moreover, if the multifaceted capacity and infrastructure that these programs create and maintain are dismantled, they will be impossible to replace. It would deal a severe blow to the pipeline of globally competent professionals, undercutting workforce demands and the ability of American institutions to compete on the world stage.

As national security and global competitiveness expand to include more global threats and issue areas, support is needed to address well-documented growing demands for U.S. graduates with

international knowledge and skills across employment sectors, including government. The interdisciplinary infrastructure Title VI and Fulbright-Hays support should be strengthened and built upon to incentivize innovative educational strategies to address these challenges.

Again, we strongly urge the Appropriations Committee to protect and fund these critical programs.

Thank you for your consideration of our requests.

Sincerely,



Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress



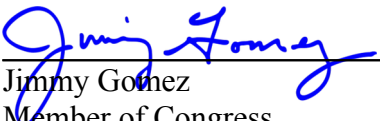
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Member of Congress



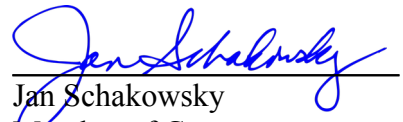
Angie Craig
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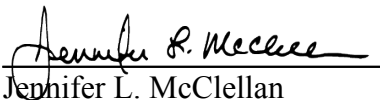
John Garamendi
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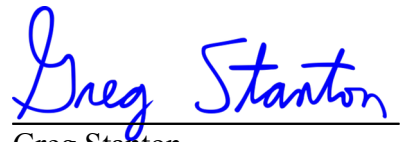
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Eleanor Holmes Norton
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Ilhan Omar
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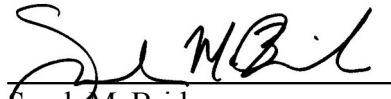
Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
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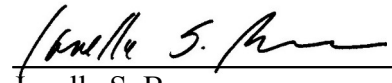
Danny K. Davis
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Sarah McBride
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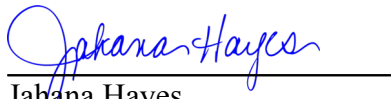
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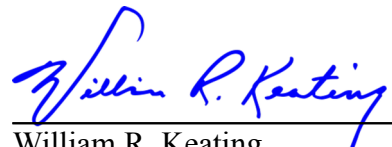
Raja Krishnamoorthi
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Scott H. Peters
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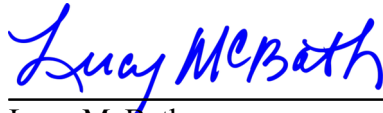
William R. Keating
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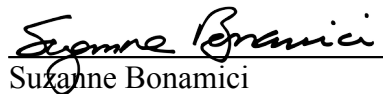
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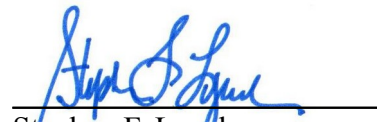
Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress



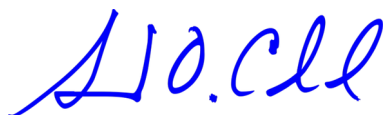
James R. Walkinshaw
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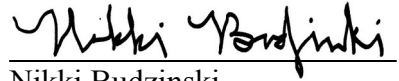
Salud Carbajal
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Diana DeGette
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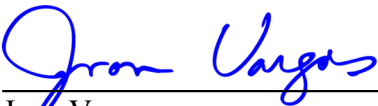
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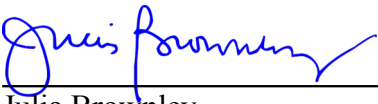
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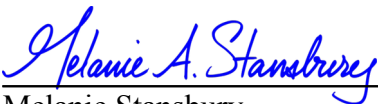
Terri A. Sewell
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Sharice L. Davids
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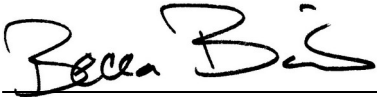
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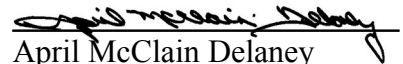


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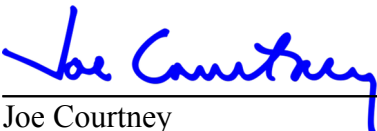
Josh Riley
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Ted W. Lieu
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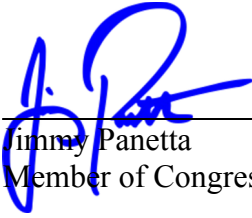
Seth Magaziner
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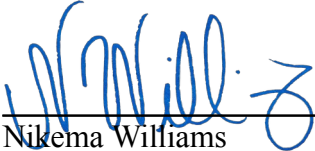
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Sara Jacobs
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Zoe Lofgren
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Teresa Leger Fernández
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Sydney Kamlager-Dove
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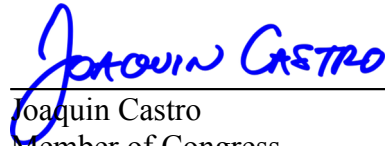
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David Scott
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Pramila Jayapal
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Joaquin Castro
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Mark DeSaulnier
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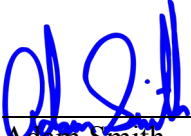
Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



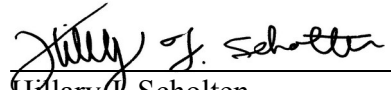
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Ayanna Pressley
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Adam Smith
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Hillary J. Scholten
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