

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 18, 2014

The Honorable John Boehner  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
H-232 The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner,

We, the undersigned Members of Congress, urge you to prevent the United States House of Representatives from adjourning before we address our nation's most pressing concerns. We have only just returned from a five-week recess in August and, already, we are preparing to recess for another seven weeks. Americans deserve better from their elected officials. Adjourning for another seven weeks with so much left undone is irresponsible and a disservice to the families we represent.

The number of important and urgent matters that require action from Congress is growing by the day. Instead of a seven-week district work period, I urge you to allow the House to remain in session so that we can tackle critical legislation that includes:

- **Equal Pay for Equal Work**—Allow a vote on H.R. 377. It has been more than 600 days since the Paycheck Fairness Act was introduced in the House of Representatives. Failure to act on this commonsense legislation is an affront to women and families around the country who are working hard every day and failing to make the same amount as their male counterparts.
- **Student Loans**—Allow a vote on the Federal Student Loan Refinancing Act and the Student Loan Repayment Assistance Act. While the cost of attending college continues to skyrocket, it has never been more important for our students to obtain a college degree. Students and families should not be crippled by the debt they have to take on to achieve that goal. Together, these bills keep interest rates low while reducing the time it takes for students to pay down their debt.
- **Hobby Lobby**—Allow a vote on H.R.5051, the Protect Women's Health from Corporate Interference Act. Women and their doctors should be responsible for making their personal health decisions—not their bosses. Bringing H.R.5051 to a vote would show women around the country that Congress takes women's right to healthcare seriously.
- **Medicare and Social Security**—Allow a vote on H.R.1179, the Improving Access to the Medicare Coverage Act. H.R.1179 helps ensure that seniors and their families are able to be reimbursed by Medicare for skilled nursing services. Neither seniors, nor their families, nor eldercare providers should be left holding the bag as a result of a purely bureaucratic issue. Medicare represents a contract between the government and

generations of Americans who've worked a lifetime to pay; it needs to be strengthened and protected.

- **Comprehensive Immigration Reform** – Allow a vote on either H.R.15 or S.744. The majority of Americans know that our immigration system is broken and is in desperate need of an overhaul. Comprehensive reform would grow the economy, reduce the deficit by \$900 billion, and help stabilize and preserve Social Security.
- **Pregnant Worker Fairness**—Allow a vote on H.R.1975, the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act. As a part of ensuring that women receive fair treatment in the workplace, we should ensure that employers provide women with the accommodations they need while they are pregnant rather than forcing them to choose between working and starting a family.
- **Veterans Homelessness**—Allow a vote on H.R.386, the Homes for Heroes Act and H.R.1714, the Shelter Our Service Members Act. Together, these bills help ensure that we are doing everything we can to combat veterans homelessness. Far too many veterans are falling through the cracks; we should not rest until every veteran is treated with the respect and honor they deserve.
- **Campaign Finance Reform**—Allow a vote on H.R.20, the Government By the People Act. It is past time that Congress act to reign in the out of control outside spending in federal campaigns. Our constituents deserve to know that their voice carries the same weight as major corporate interests. This legislation encourages citizen participation, amplifies their voice, and prevents Super PACs from silencing the voice of the people.
- **Funding for Wildfires** – Allow a vote on H.R.3992, the Wildfire Disaster Fund Act of 2014. This would increase wildfire disaster relief and provide some much-needed relief to communities across the west coast where we are facing one of the most severe fire seasons on record.

Speaker Boehner, these are merely a few of the countless reasons to not adjourn for seven weeks. Devoting our time to tackling these issues is the job the American people hired us to do. We urge you not to adjourn so that we in Congress can do right by the people of this country.

Sincerely,



Scott H. Peters

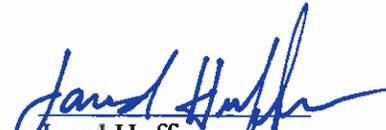
Member of Congress

  
Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress

  
Raul Grijalva  
Member of Congress

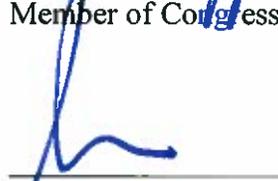
  
Joe Garcia  
Member of Congress

  
Ron Barber  
Member of Congress

  
Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress

  
Dave Loebsack  
Member of Congress

  
Bill Foster  
Member of Congress

  
Ami Bera  
Member of Congress

  
Terri Sewell  
Member of Congress

  
Matt Cartwright  
Member of Congress

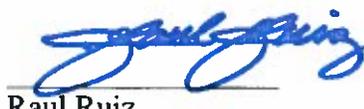
  
Mike Honda  
Member of Congress

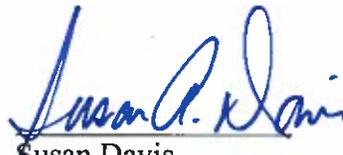
  
Tony Cardenas  
Member of Congress

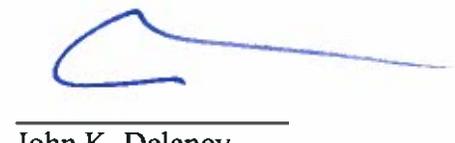
  
Jared Polis  
Member of Congress

  
Grace Napolitano  
Member of Congress

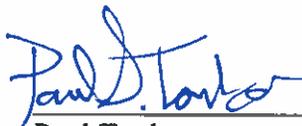
  
Ron Kind  
Member of Congress

  
Raul Ruiz  
Member of Congress

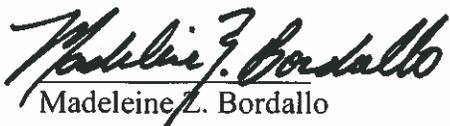
  
Susan Davis  
Member of Congress

  
John K. Delaney  
Member of Congress

  
Niki Tsongas  
Member of Congress

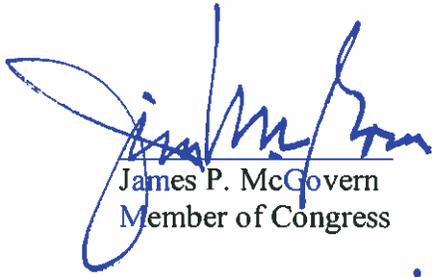
  
Paul Tonko  
Member of Congress

  
Peter DeFazio  
Member of Congress

  
Madeleine Z. Bordallo  
Member of Congress

  
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress

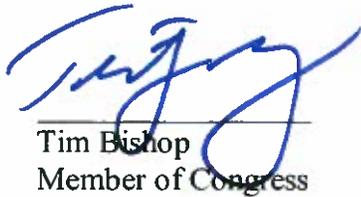
  
Steve Israel  
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



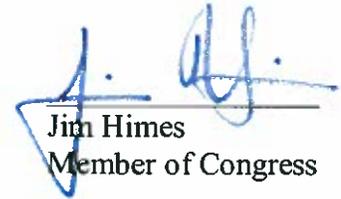
John Sarbanes  
Member of Congress



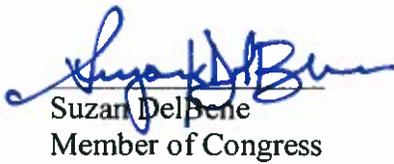
Tim Bishop  
Member of Congress



Dan Maffei  
Member of Congress



Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



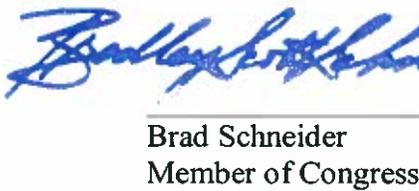
Suzan DelBene  
Member of Congress



Elizabeth Esty  
Member of Congress



Dan Kildee  
Member of Congress



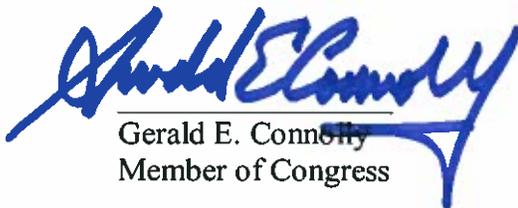
Brad Schneider  
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



David Cicilline  
Member of Congress



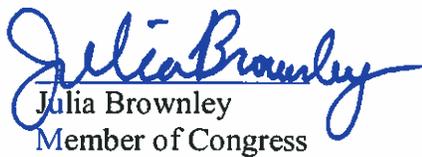
Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



Elijah E. Cummings  
Member of Congress



G. K. Butterfield  
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



Alcee Hastings  
Member of Congress

*Brad Sherman*  
Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress

Wm. Lacy Clay

Wm. Lacy Clay  
Member of Congress