

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

December 13, 2017

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leader Pelosi,

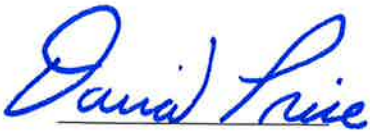
Each year, approximately 34,000 Americans die from gun violence—the highest number in the developed world. In the wake of a seemingly endless string of horrific mass shootings, Americans of diverse backgrounds are joining with scientists and members of the public health community to demand decisive action from their elected leaders to keep our neighborhoods and communities safe.

Although Members of Congress may disagree about how best to respond to the high incidence of gun violence, we should all be able to agree that our response should be informed by sound scientific evidence. That's why we are asking you to take one simple step to prevent future tragedies by removing the language that creates a chilling effect on federally funded gun violence research at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other agencies currently included in the Fiscal Year 2018 House passed spending bill.

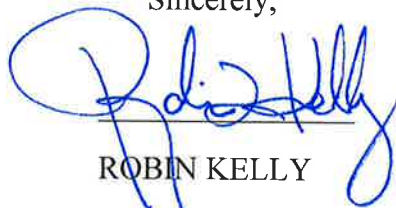
As you are aware, inclusion of the "Dickey Amendment" has, in practice, prevented the CDC from conducting publicly funded scientific research on the causes of gun violence or its effects on public health. This research is consistent with other non-disease related research conducted by the CDC such as research on drowning prevention, intimate partner violence, and motor vehicle injuries.

Whether it is horrific mass shootings or the often unreported gun violence that occurs every day in towns and cities across America—the call to action is clear. Instead of continuing with the status quo, let's allow the research community to investigate evidence-based solutions that could help prevent gun violence while still protecting the rights of law-abiding gun owners. We strongly urge House leadership to reject short-sighted and unnecessary riders that freeze gun violence research.

Sincerely,



DAVID PRICE



ROBIN KELLY



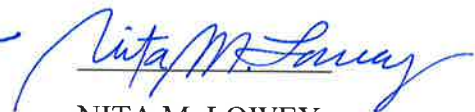
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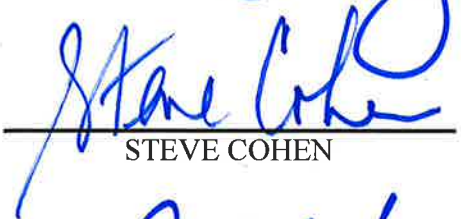

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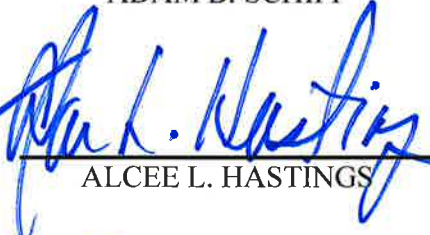

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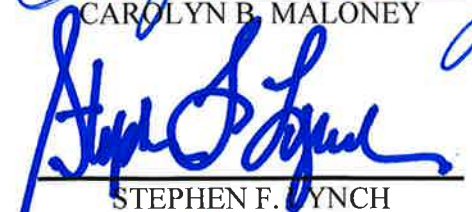

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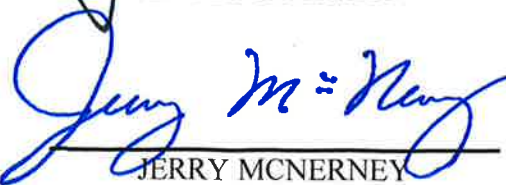

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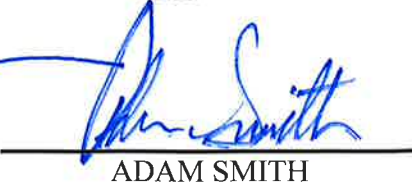

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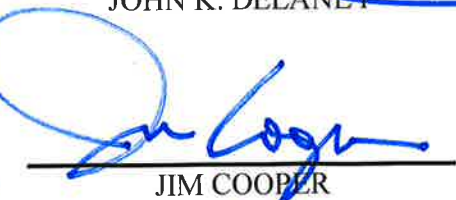

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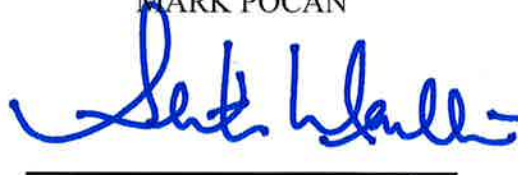

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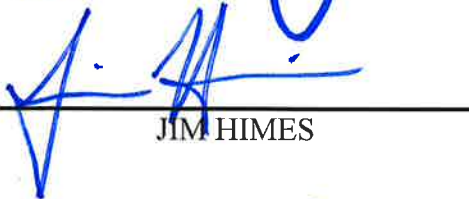

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