

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.¹ 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.

¹ 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.²

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,



Sam Graves
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure



Bruce Westerman
Ranking Member
Committee on Natural Resources

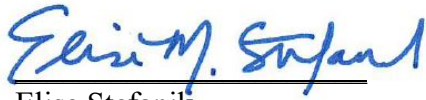


Kevin McCarthy
House Republican Leader



Steve Scalise
House Republican Whip

² 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



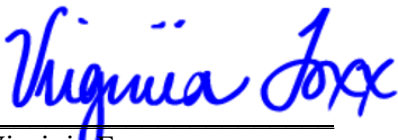
Frank Lucas
Ranking Member
Committee on Science, Space, and
Technology



Rodney Davis
Ranking Member
Committee on House Administration



James Comer
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Reform



Virginia Foxx
Ranking Member
Committee on Education and Labor



Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce



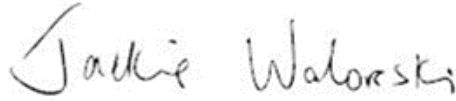
Jim Jordan
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary



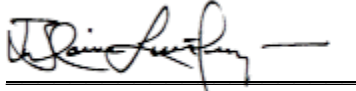
Mike D. Rogers
Ranking Member
Committee on Armed Service



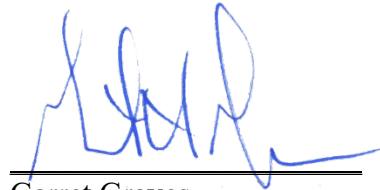
Mike Bost
Ranking Member
Committee on Veterans' Affairs



Jackie Walorski
Ranking Member
Committee on Ethics



Blaine Luetkemeyer
Ranking Member
Committee on Small Business



Garret Graves
Ranking Member
Select Committee on Climate



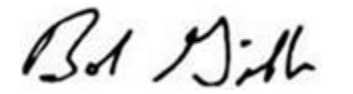
Tom Cole
Ranking Member
Committee on Rules



Devin Nunes
Ranking Member
Permanent Select Committee
on Intelligence



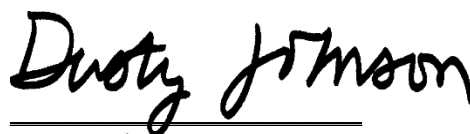
A. Drew Ferguson, IV.
Member of Congress



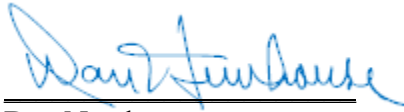
Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress



Tim Burchett
Member of Congress



Dusty Johnson
Member of Congress



Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress



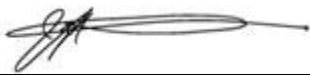
Robert J. Wittman
Member of Congress



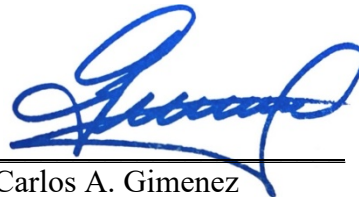
Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Member of Congress



David Rouzer
Member of Congress



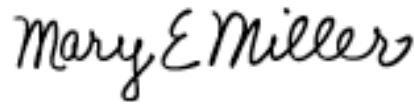
Jeff Van Drew
Member of Congress



Carlos A. Gimenez
Member of Congress



Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Mary E. Miller
Member of Congress



Troy Balderson
Member of Congress



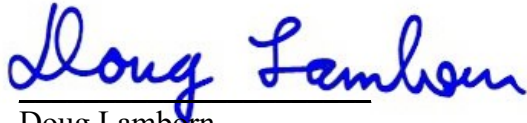
Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress



Nancy Mace
Member of Congress



Tom Emmer
Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



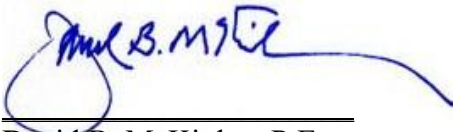
Rick W. Allen
Member of Congress



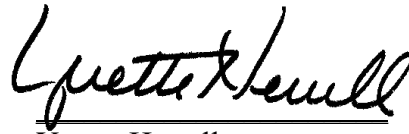
Steve Chabot
Member of Congress



Doug LaMalfa
Member of Congress



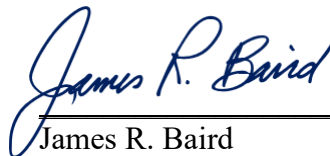
David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



Yvette Herrell
Member of Congress



Mike Kelly
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James R. Baird
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Daniel Webster
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Kelly Armstrong
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Lisa McClain
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Brian Mast
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Jack Bergman
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Ted Budd
Member of Congress



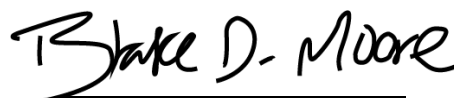
Guy Reschenthaler
Member of Congress



Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Tom McClintock
Member of Congress



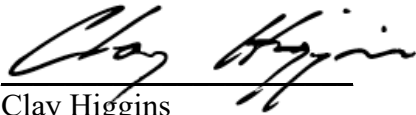
Blake Moore
Member of Congress



Roger Williams
Member of Congress



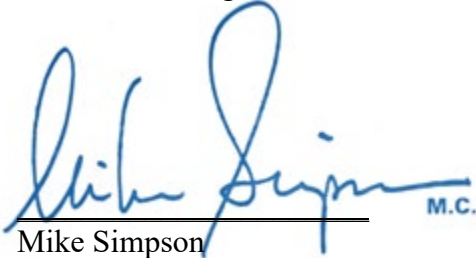
Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress



Clay Higgins
Member of Congress



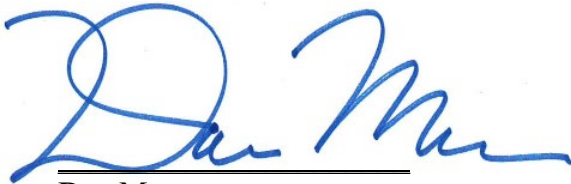
Greg Pence
Member of Congress



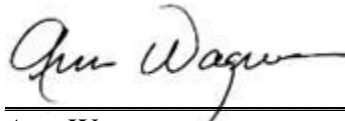
Mike Simpson
Member of Congress



Chuck Fleischmann
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Dan Meuser
Member of Congress



Ann Wagner
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Gus M. Bilirakis
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Warren Davidson
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Andrew Garbarino
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Darrell Issa
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Billy Long
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Gregory F. Murphy, M.D.
Member of Congress

David Kustoff
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Pete Stauber
Member of Congress

Andy Biggs
Member of Congress

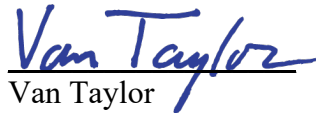
Andy Barr
Member of Congress

Jerry L. Carl
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Scott Fitzgerald
Member of Congress



Adrian Smith
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Van Taylor
Member of Congress



John Joyce
Member of Congress



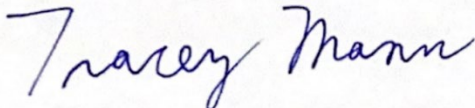
Jim Hagedorn
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens
Member of Congress



Fred Keller
Member of Congress



Tracey Mann
Member of Congress



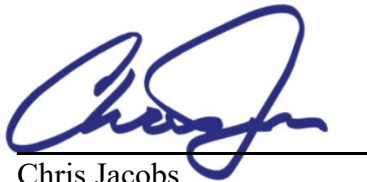
Carol D. Miller
Member of Congress



Steven M. Palazzo
Member of Congress



Mike Johnson
Member of Congress



Chris Jacobs
Member of Congress



David G. Valadao
Member of Congress



Mike Gallagher
Member of Congress



Ken Calvert
Member of Congress



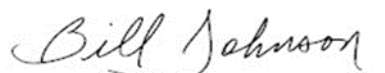
Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



Jodey C. Arrington
Member of Congress



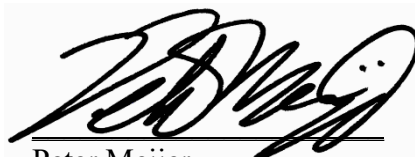
Kevin Hern
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



Austin Scott
Member of Congress



Peter Meijer
Member of Congress



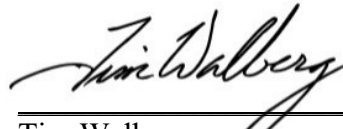
Maria Elvira Salazar
Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



Beth Van Duyne
Member of Congress



Tim Walberg
Member of Congress



Richard Hudson
Member of Congress



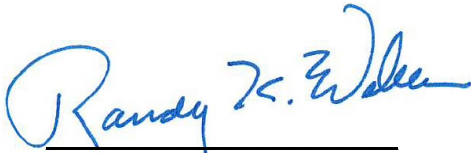
Stephanie Bice
Member of Congress



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



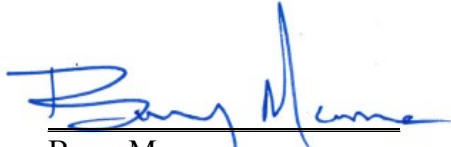
Russ Fulcher
Russ Fulcher
Member of Congress



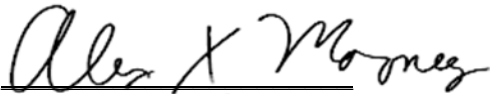
Scott DeJarlais
Scott DeJarlais
Member of Congress



Debbie Lesko
Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress



Barry Moore
Barry Moore
Member of Congress



Alex X. Mooney
Alex X. Mooney
Member of Congress



Barry Loudermilk
Barry Loudermilk
Member of Congress



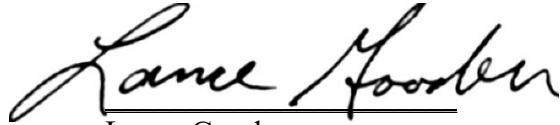
William R. Timmons
William Timmons
Member of Congress



Bryan Steil
Bryan Steil
Member of Congress



Brett Guthrie
Member of Congress



Lance Gooden
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



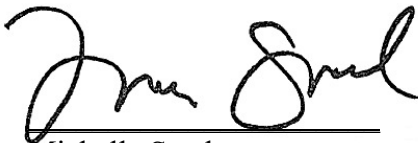
Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.
Member of Congress



C. Scott Franklin
Member of Congress



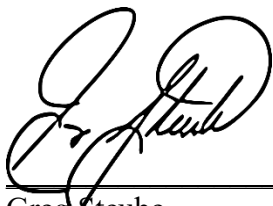
Lee Zeldin
Member of Congress



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



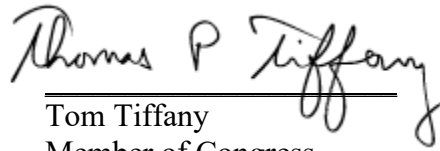
Julia Letlow
Member of Congress



Troy Nehls
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz
Member of Congress



Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress



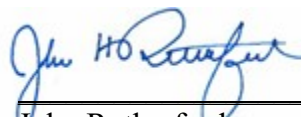
H. Morgan Griffith
Member of Congress



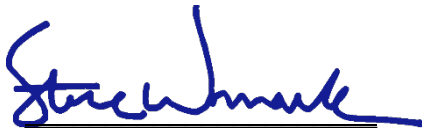
Bill Posey
Member of Congress



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



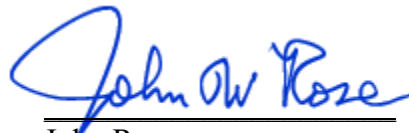
Diana Harshbarger
Member of Congress



Jenniffer Gonzalez-Colon
Member of Congress



Madison Cawthorn
Member of Congress



John Rose
Member of Congress



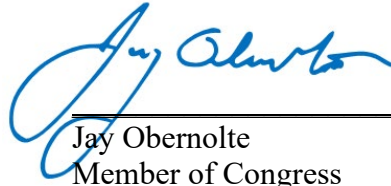
Victoria Spartz
Member of Congress



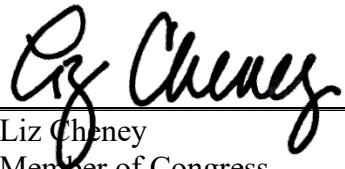
Pete Sessions
Member of Congress



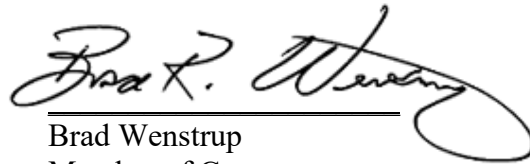
Markwayne Mullin
Member of Congress



Jay Obernolte
Member of Congress



Liz Cheney
Member of Congress



Brad Wenstrup
Member of Congress



French Hill
Member of Congress



Robert E. Latta
Member of Congress



Matt Rosendale
Member of Congress



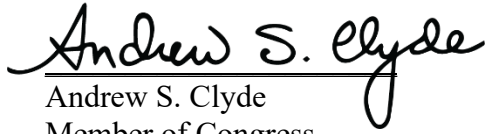
Michael Waltz
Member of Congress

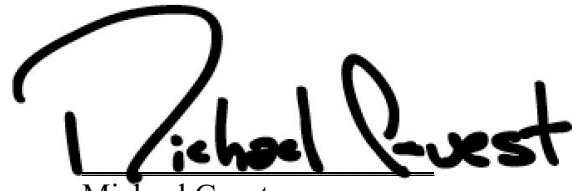



Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen
Member of Congress




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