

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

January 28, 2026

Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
House Democratic Leader
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson and Leader Jeffries,

We write to express our strong opposition to any efforts to limit longstanding state and local authority to protect human health, the environment, and wildlife by regulating pesticides in local communities. As Congress considers legislation related to agriculture, including appropriations packages and potential reauthorization of the farm bill, we urge you to ensure that state, county, and local governments retain the right to protect their communities and set policies that best suit local public health and safety needs.

The Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) establishes the authority of the Environmental Protection Agency to oversee the registration, distribution, sale, and use of pesticides in the United States. Congress has long considered FIFRA to set a federal *floor* for pesticide policy, and under FIFRA, state, county, and local governments possess authority to enact supplementary standards.¹ The majority of states – as well as hundreds of towns and cities – have adopted laws and ordinances related to pesticide safety. These include laws to restrict pesticide use near schools, parks, and playgrounds, protect drinking water supplies and wildlife, provide consumers with adequate information to make informed decisions about use and exposure, and equip workers with information and tools to minimize occupational risk.

We are deeply concerned that legislative proposals to curtail state and local input regarding pesticide policy are contrary to FIFRA's longstanding balance of federal, state, and local authority. These proposals seek to overturn decades of precedent and Supreme Court rulings that allow for democratically elected local governments to address the specific needs of their communities. If enacted, they could result in an immediate removal of protections across the country, endangering public safety while limiting accountability for manufacturers who fail to adequately warn about the hazards posed by certain high-risk pesticides.

As the House continues its work in the 119th Congress, we urge you to reject any and all pesticide policy riders that would endanger public health, diminish local authority, and jeopardize Congress' ability to deliver bipartisan legislation to strengthen our food system. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

¹ Wisconsin Pub. Intervenor v. Mortier, 501 U.S. 597 (1991)



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Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



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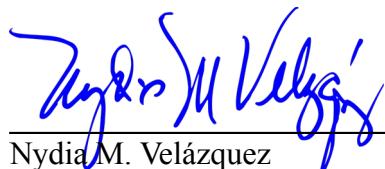
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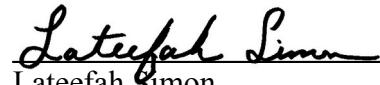
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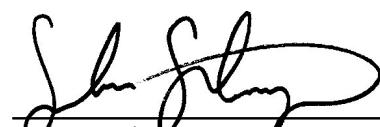
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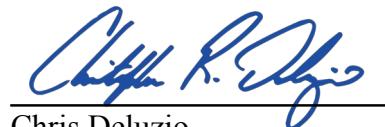
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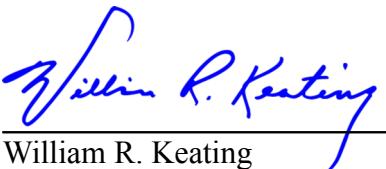
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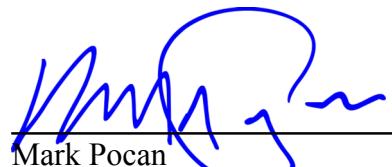
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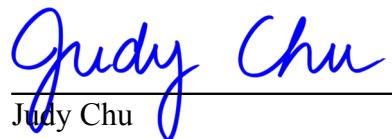
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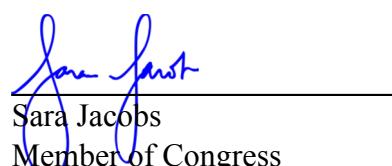
MARK TAKANO
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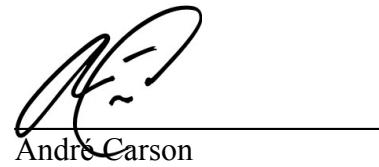
Judy Chu
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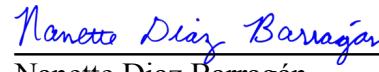
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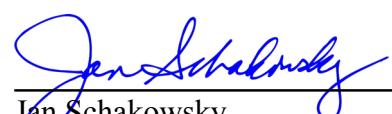
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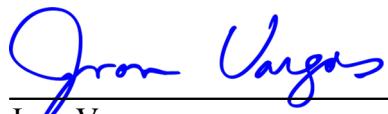
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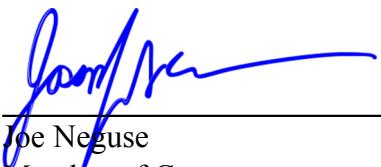
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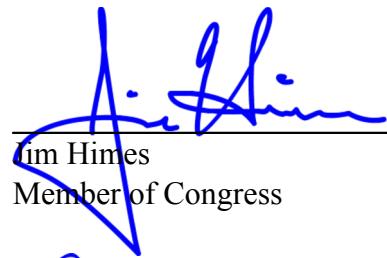
Bill Foster

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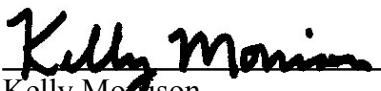
Jim Himes
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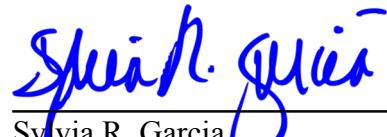
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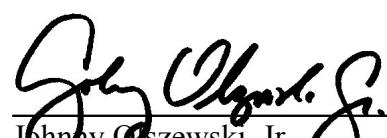
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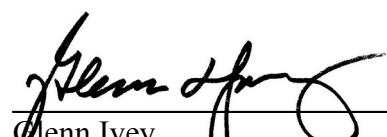
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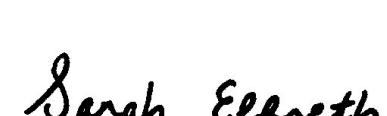
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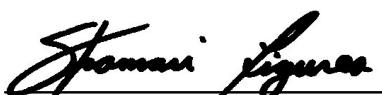
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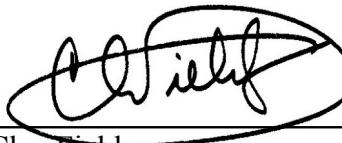
Shomari Figures
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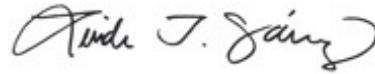
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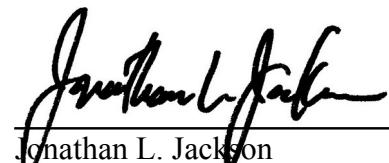
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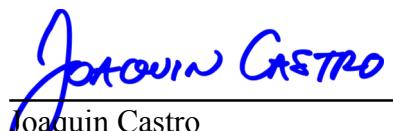
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