

# 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.<sup>1</sup> 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 119<sup>th</sup> 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,

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<sup>1</sup> Wisconsin Pub. Intervenor v. Mortier, 501 U.S. 597 (1991)



James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



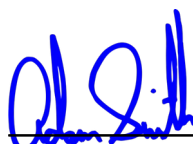
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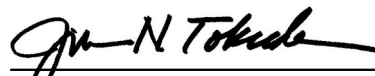
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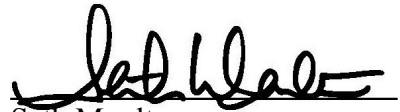
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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
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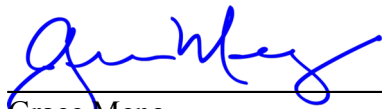
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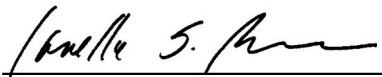
Terri A. Sewell  
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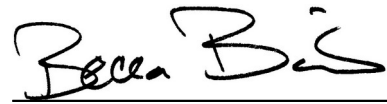
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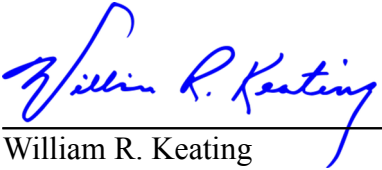
Jerrold Nadler  
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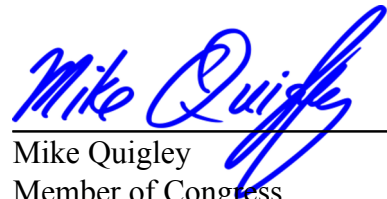
William R. Keating  
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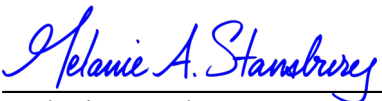
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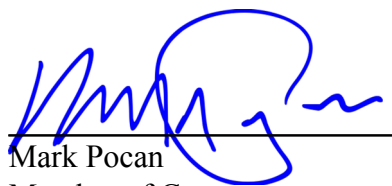
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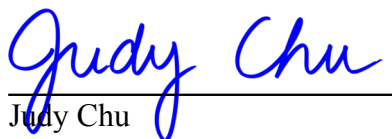
Raja Krishnamoorthi  
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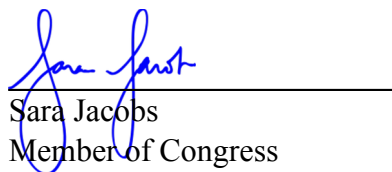
MARK TAKANO  
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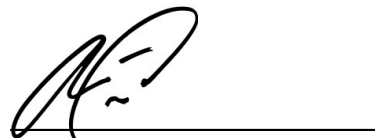
Judy Chu  
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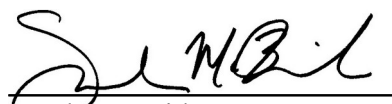
Shri Thanedar  
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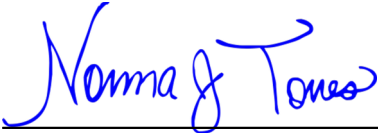
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Paul D. Tonko  
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Norma J. Torres  
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Diana DeGette  
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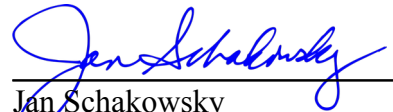
Richard E. Neal  
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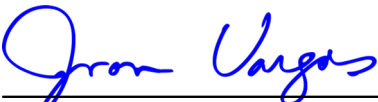
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Jared Huffman  
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Deborah K. Ross  
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John B. Larson  
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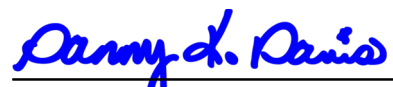
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Maxine Dexter  
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Danny K. Davis  
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Yvette D. Clarke  
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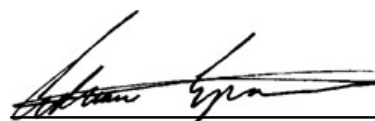
Derek T. Tran  
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Valerie P. Foushee  
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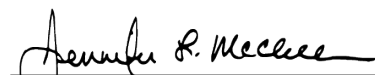
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Mike Levin  
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Frederica S. Wilson  
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Jahana Hayes  
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Veronica Escobar  
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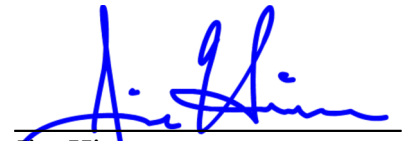


Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



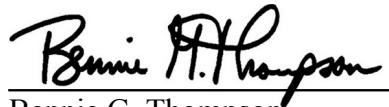
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Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress




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Tim Himes  
Member of Congress



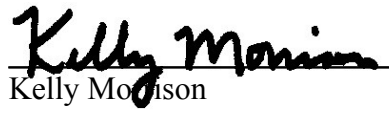
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Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress




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Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Kelly Morrison  
Member of Congress



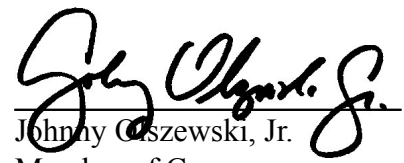
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Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



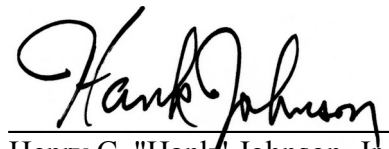
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Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress



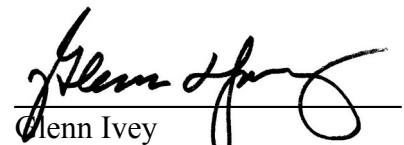
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Johnny Oszewski, Jr.  
Member of Congress




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Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
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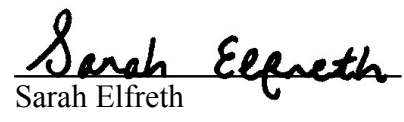
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Glenn Ivey  
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Donald Norcross  
Member of Congress



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Sarah Elfreth  
Member of Congress



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James R. Walkinshaw  
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Al Green  
Member of Congress





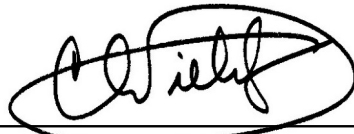
Robert J. Menendez  
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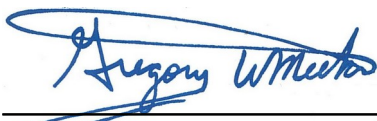
Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



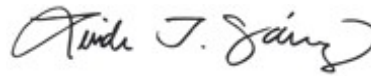
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Cleo Fields  
Member of Congress



Gregory W. Meeks  
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Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



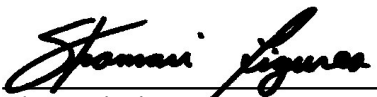
Yassamin Ansari  
Member of Congress



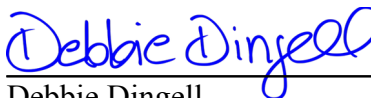
Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress



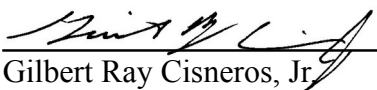
Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



Shomari Figures  
Member of Congress



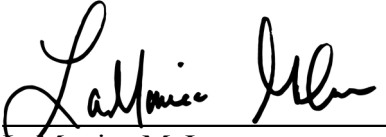
Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



LaMonica McIver  
Member of Congress



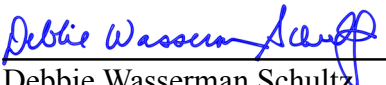
Darren Soto  
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Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.  
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Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren  
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Joyce Beatty  
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Sean Casten  
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Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott  
Member of Congress



George Latimer  
Member of Congress



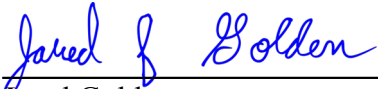
Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



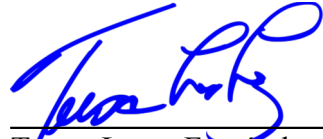
Joaquin Castro  
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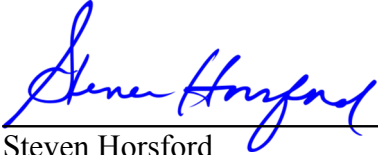
Susie Lee  
Member of Congress



Jared Golden  
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Teresa Leger Fernandez  
Member of Congress



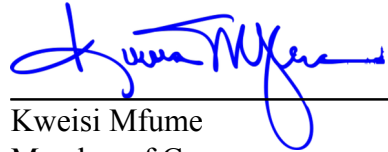
Steven Horsford  
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Joseph D. Morelle  
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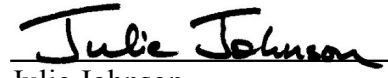
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