

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 2, 2025

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Trump,

We write to express our deep concern over the proposed elimination of the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and the devastating impact such cuts would have on communities throughout the country.<sup>1</sup>

The IMLS is the only federal agency dedicated to supporting America's museums and libraries. Operating in all 50 states and U.S. territories, it plays a vital role in strengthening these institutions which serve as essential educational, cultural, and economic pillars in our communities. From early literacy programs and STEM education initiatives to high-speed internet access and job training resources, funding for the IMLS enables libraries and museums to provide critical services to millions of Americans. The loss of this funding would be particularly devastating for rural, tribal, and other underserved communities that rely heavily on these institutions for access to learning resources, workforce development, and technological infrastructure.

Beyond their valuable contributions to education and social development, museums and libraries also serve as significant economic drivers. The American Alliance of Museums reports that museums alone contribute more than \$50 billion to the U.S. economy each year and support over 726,000 jobs. Museums have immense power to draw tourism and foot traffic to other local businesses and revitalize communities. For every \$1 that museums and other nonprofit cultural organizations receive in government funding, they return more than \$5 in tax revenue. They also have broad public support, with 96% of Americans wanting to maintain or increase federal funding for museums.<sup>2</sup> Libraries similarly generate economic returns through workforce training programs, small business support, and research services. Nearly all of the approximately 17,000 public libraries across the nation offer Wi-Fi access at no charge, and in 2019, Americans accessed the Internet using library computers close to 224 million times.<sup>3</sup> This includes millions of students who lack adequate broadband access at home and rely on libraries to complete their homework.<sup>4</sup> Despite this, IMLS funding accounts for a mere 0.0046% of the federal budget, an incredibly modest investment relative to the immense benefits these institutions provide.

Eliminating the IMLS would not only jeopardize these essential services but also dismiss the everyday needs of millions of Americans who rely on libraries and museums for learning, job opportunities, and community engagement. We urge the Administration to reconsider this decision and recognize the far-reaching impact of IMLS funding. Maintaining and strengthening federal support for museums and libraries is not just an investment in cultural preservation, it is an investment in education, innovation, and economic growth.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to working with you to ensure that America's libraries and museums continue to thrive and serve the public.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/03/continuing-the-reduction-of-the-federal-bureaucracy/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.aam-us.org/programs/about-museums/museum-facts-data/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.imls.gov/research-evaluation/surveys/public-libraries-survey-pls>

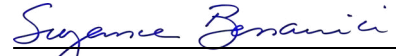
<sup>4</sup> <https://www.imls.gov/our-work/priority-areas/workforce-development>

Sincerely,



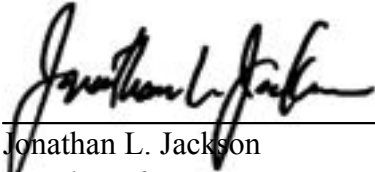
---

Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



---

Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



---

Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



---

Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



---

Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



---

André Carson  
Member of Congress



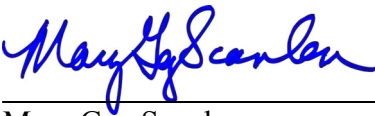
---

Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



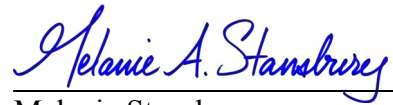
---

Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



---

Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress



---

Melanie Stansbury  
Member of Congress



---

Greg Landsman  
Member of Congress



---

Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



---

James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



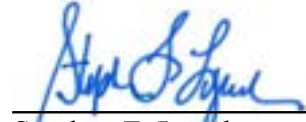
---

Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



---

Bonnie Watson Coleman  
Member of Congress



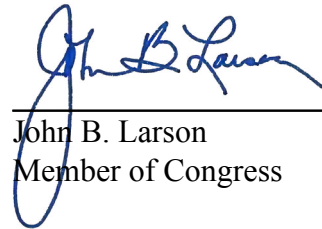
---

Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



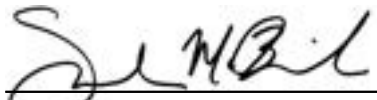
---

Valerie P. Foushee  
Member of Congress



---

John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



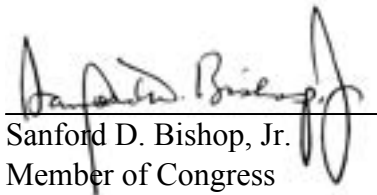
---

Sarah McBride  
Member of Congress



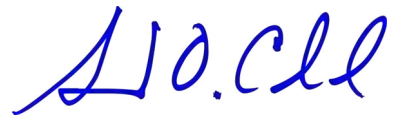
---

Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



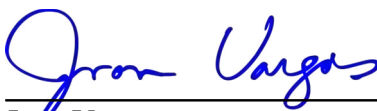
---

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress



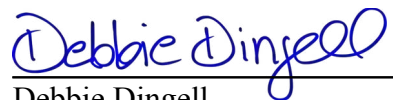
---

Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



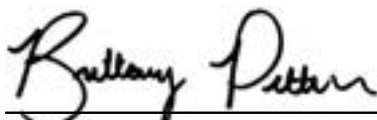
---

Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



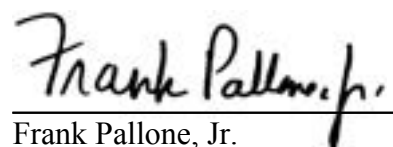
---

Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



---

Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress



---

Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress



---

Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



---

Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



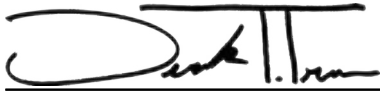
---

Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



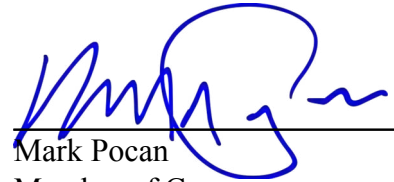
---

Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress




---

Derek T. Tran  
Member of Congress



---

Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



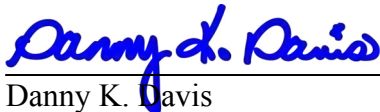
---

Greg Stanton  
Member of Congress



---

Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



---

Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



---

Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



---

Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress



---

Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



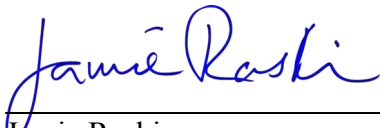
---

Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



---

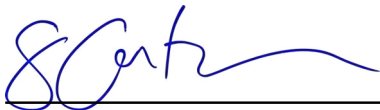
Lucy McBath  
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress



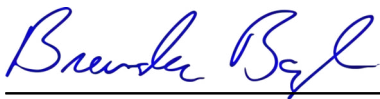
Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



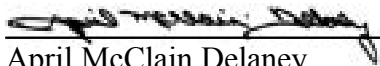
Chris Deluzio  
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



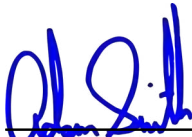
April McClain Delaney  
Member of Congress



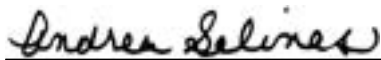
Maxine Dexter  
Member of Congress



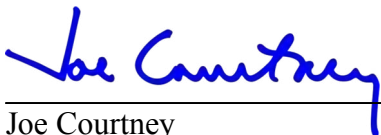
Val Hoyle  
Member of Congress



Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas  
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



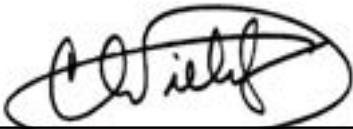
---

Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



---

Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



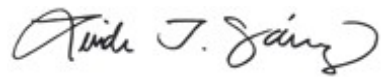
---

Cleo Fields  
Member of Congress



---

Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



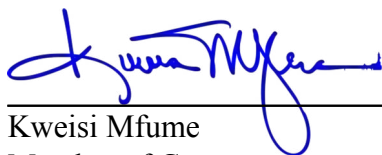
---

Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



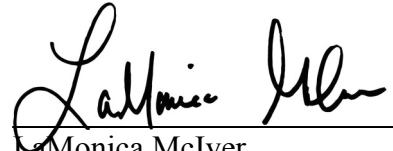
---

Jasmine Crockett  
Member of Congress



---

Kweisi Mfume  
Member of Congress



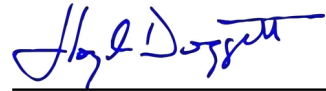
---

LaMonica McIver  
Member of Congress



---

Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



---

Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



---

Jim Tokuda  
Member of Congress



---

Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress



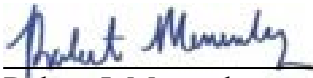
---

Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress

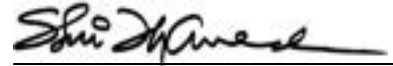


---

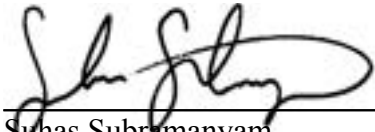
Gabe Amo  
Member of Congress



Robert J. Menendez  
Member of Congress



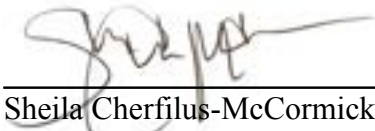
Shri Thanedar  
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam  
Member of Congress



Troy A. Carter, Sr.  
Member of Congress



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



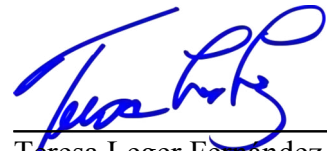
Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



Teresa Leger Fernandez  
Member of Congress

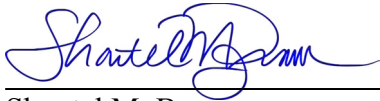


Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress

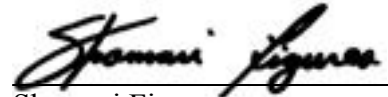


Thomas R. Suozzi  
Member of Congress

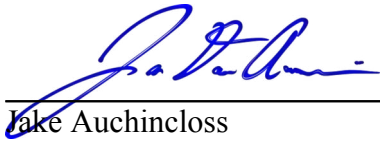




Shontel M. Brown  
Member of Congress



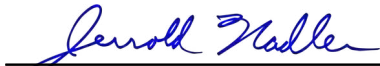
Shomari Figures  
Member of Congress



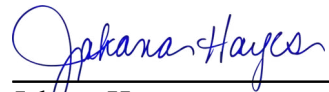
Jake Auchincloss  
Member of Congress



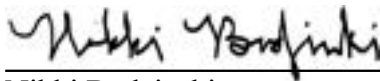
Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



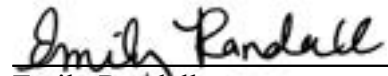
Terrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



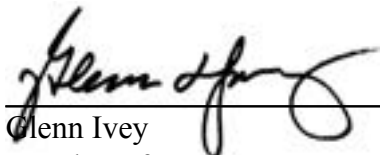
Emily Randall  
Member of Congress



Emilia Strong Sykes  
Member of Congress



Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



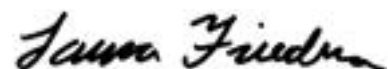
Glenn Ivey  
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress

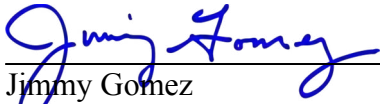


MARK TAKANO  
Member of Congress

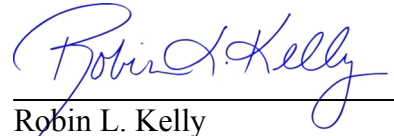


Laura Friedman  
Member of Congress

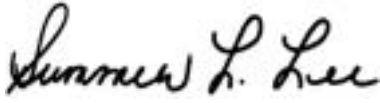




Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



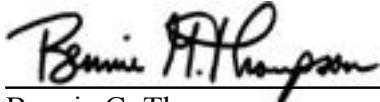
Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



Summer L. Lee  
Member of Congress



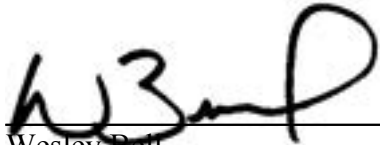
Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress



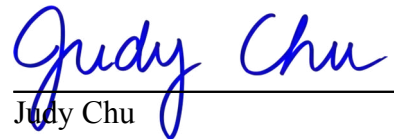
Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



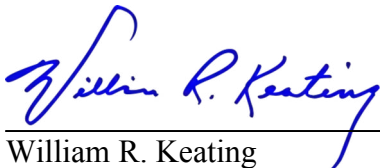
Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



Wesley Bell  
Member of Congress



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



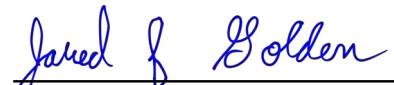
William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



Lois Frankel  
Member of Congress



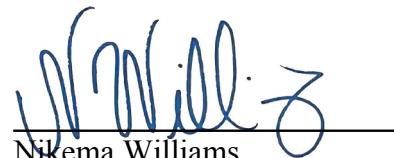
Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress




Jared Golden  
Member of Congress



Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress

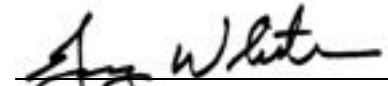


Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



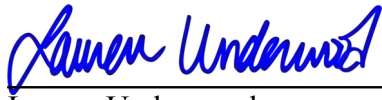
---

Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress



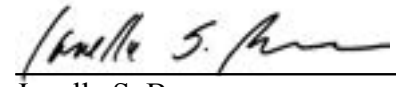
---

George Whitesides  
Member of Congress



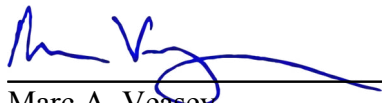
---

Lauren Underwood  
Member of Congress



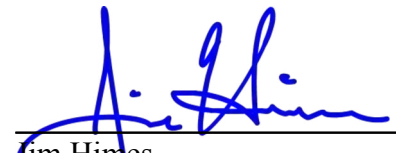
---

Janelle S. Bynum  
Member of Congress




---

Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



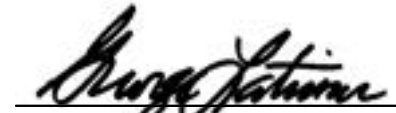
---

Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



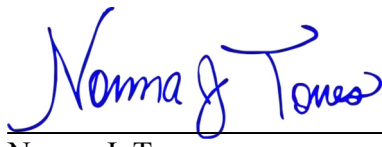
---

Donald G. Davis  
Member of Congress



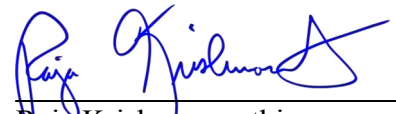
---

George Latimer  
Member of Congress



---

Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



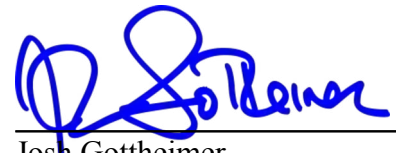
---

Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



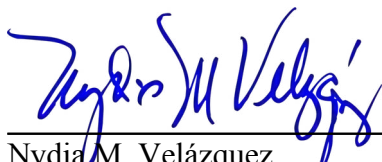
---

Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress



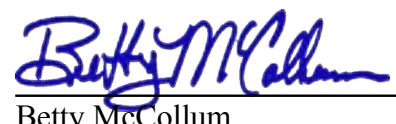
---

Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



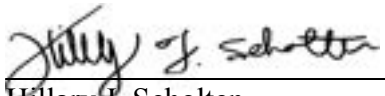
---

Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



---

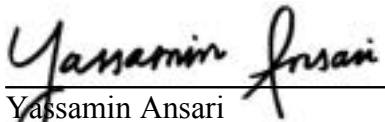
Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hillary J. Scholten", written over a horizontal line.

Hillary J. Scholten  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Min", written over a horizontal line.

Dave Min  
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yassamin Ansari", written over a horizontal line.

Yassamin Ansari  
Member of Congress