

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May, 17, 2014

Mr. David Smith, Superintendent
Brown v. Board of Education National Historic Site
1515 Southeast Monroe Street
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Mr. Smith,

We, the undersigned Members of the United States House of Representatives, write you to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the United States Supreme Court decision in *Oliver L. Brown, et al. v. Board of Education of Topeka*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954).

The *Brown v. Board of Education* case included the additional cases of *Briggs v. Elliot* (South Carolina), *Davis v. Board of Education of Prince Edward County* (Virginia), *Boiling v. Sharpe* (Washington, DC), and *Gebhart v. Ethel* (Delaware), and the unanimous opinion written by Chief Justice Earl Warren, held that "Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal," and that segregation of schools violates the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment. This decision overturned *Plessy v. Ferguson*, 163 U.S. 537 (1896), and signaled the end of state-sanctioned segregation of public schools in the United States, making it unlawful to deny access to public facilities on the basis of race.

While much credit is given to Charles Hamilton Houston and Justice Thurgood Marshall for their hard work in making this decision a reality, we also wish to remember the sacrifices of the Reverend Oliver L. Brown, Reverend Joseph A. DeLaine, Harry and Eliza Briggs, the other parents of Summerton, South Carolina, Mrs. Dorothy E. Davis of Prince Edwards County, Virginia, Mr. Spottswood Bolling and the parents of Washington, DC, Ms. Ethel Belton, Ms. Sarah Bulah, and the other parents of Claymont, Delaware. These are leaders who not only saw the challenge, but committed themselves to the cause and have made our nation a better place.

We hope that your park will continue to provide the opportunity for future generations to visit and take part in the search for justice and equality for all Americans.

Sincerely,



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Member of Congress



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Member of Congress



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Member of Congress

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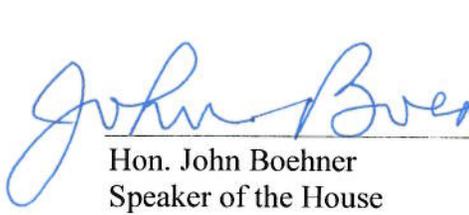
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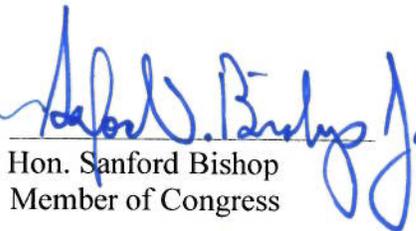
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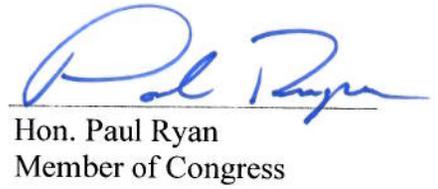
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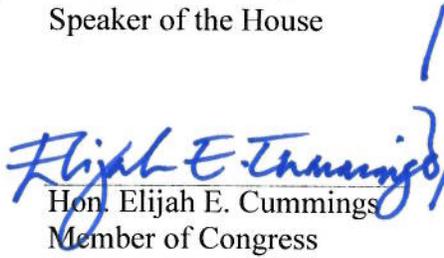
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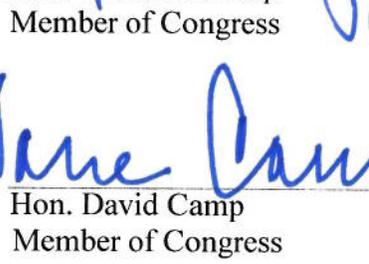
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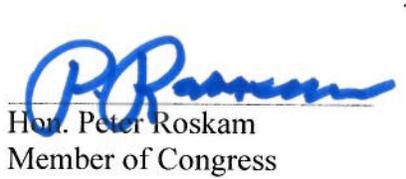

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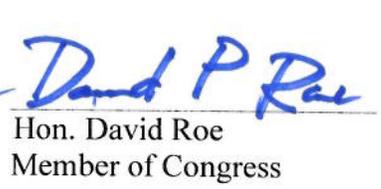

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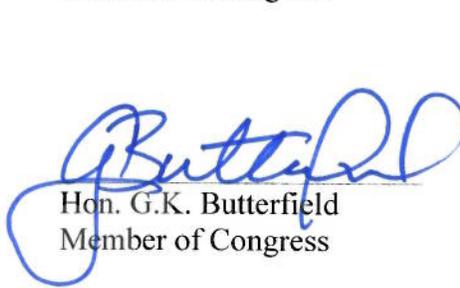

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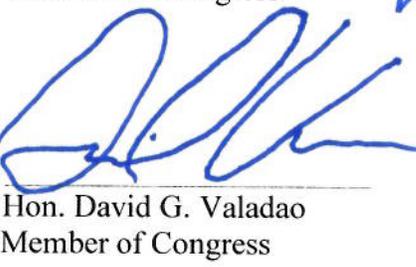

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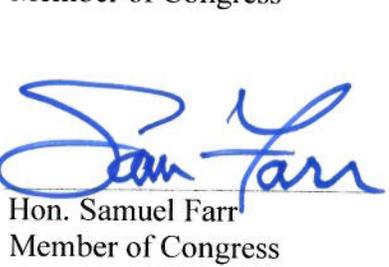

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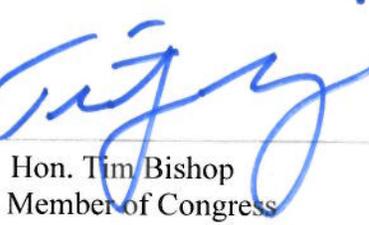

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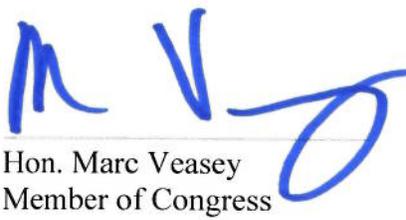

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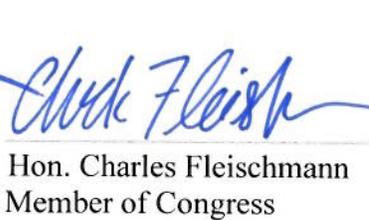

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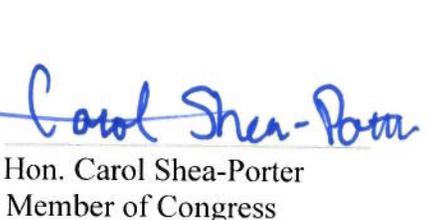

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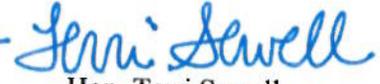

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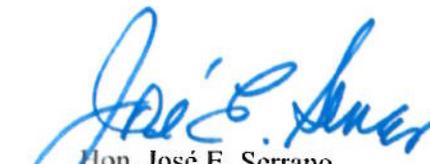

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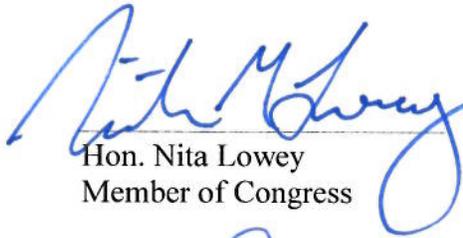

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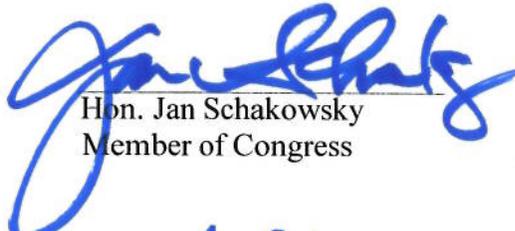
Hon. Lujan Grisham
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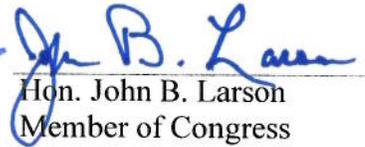
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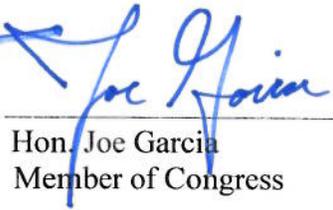
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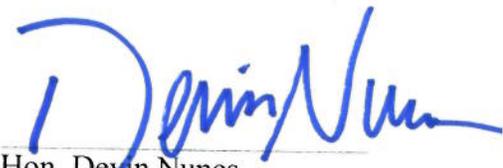
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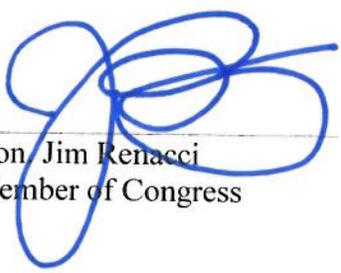
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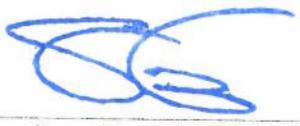
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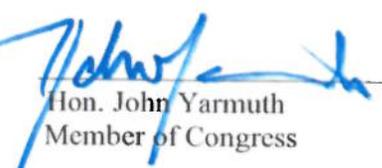
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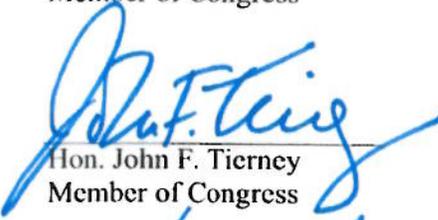
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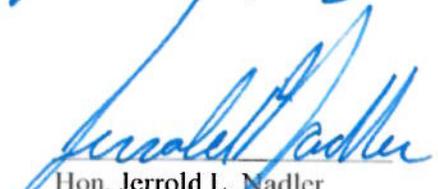
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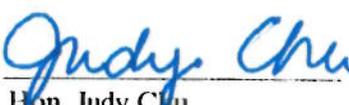
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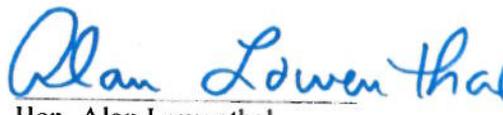
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Member of Congress



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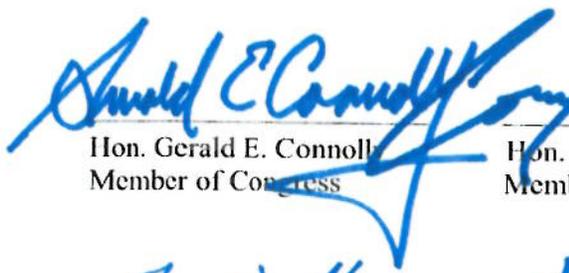
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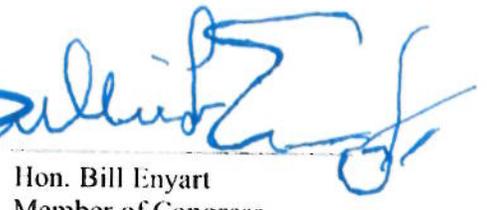
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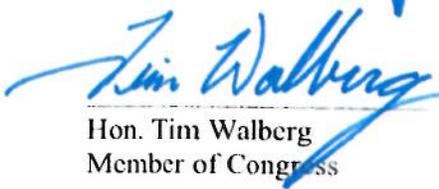
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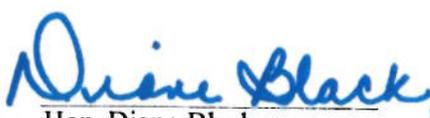


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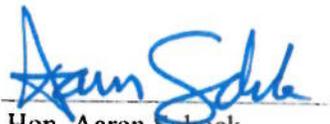

Hon. Keith Ellison
Member of Congress

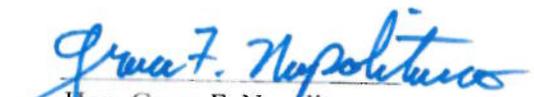

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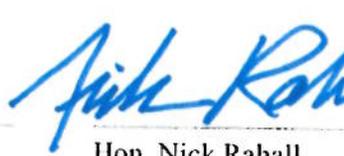

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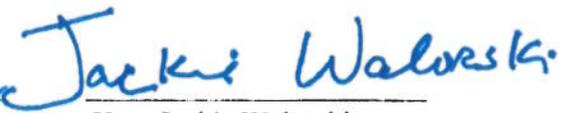

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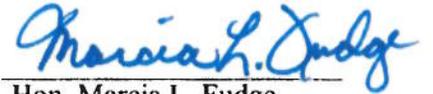
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Hon. Niki Tsongas
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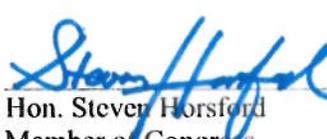
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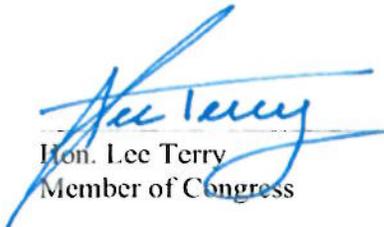
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Hon. Kristi Noem
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Hon. Gloria Negrete McLeod
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