

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 24, 2016

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Labor, Health and Human Services  
Education and Related Agencies  
Appropriations Subcommittee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education, and Related Agencies  
Appropriations Subcommittee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

Significant advancements in early detection and treatment of many cancers have resulted in a rapidly growing community of those living with, through and beyond a diagnosis. Currently, there are more than 14.5 million cancer survivors in the United States and 18 million are expected by 2022. We urge you to address the unique needs of cancer survivors with adequate funding in the FY 2017 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies (LHHS) appropriations bill.

The number of people affected by cancer, including those diagnosed and their impacted loved ones, is staggering. Today, it seems impossible to find someone who has not been touched by the disease. All Americans are at risk of a cancer diagnosis; thankfully, there has been a remarkable reduction in associated deaths. Yet the toll taken by cancer and its treatment can be long-lasting. If and when treatment ends, the cancer journey does not.

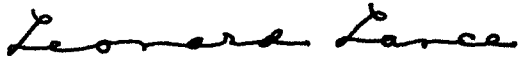
Cancer survivors face numerous physical, psychological, social, spiritual, and financial issues throughout their diagnosis, treatment, and remaining years of their lives. Providing patient-centered resources to assist with the myriad side effects from cancer, ensures a comprehensive and thorough national response to this epidemic. While there has been much Congressional focus on advancing treatments and cures, the growing population of survivors must not be neglected. In 2005, the Institute of Medicine called for reforms to better assist cancer survivors in its report, *From Cancer Patient to Cancer Survivor: Lost in Transition*. Many of the recommendations remain relevant today, more than 10 years after publication.

As cancer related funding for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is reviewed, we encourage you to determine what more can be done to support cancer survivors. Whether through additional research and consensus on essential elements of survivorship care, leveraging federal resources, or improving coordination among providers, much can be done to assist the millions of Americans affected by the disease. Evidence-based community programs that improve a cancer survivor's ability to be physically active, not only decrease likelihood of a future health complication, but also improve quality of life, cardiovascular endurance, and the ability to return to a productive life.

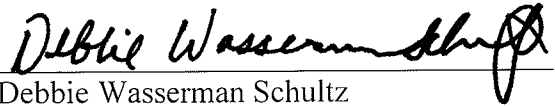
Despite the growing number of cancer survivors in the U.S. today, resources remain largely underfunded. For many, cancer has become a chronic condition, but that transition is not without consequence. We urge members of the House Appropriations Committee to ensure that adequate

funding is provided to address the unique needs of this population. An investment in quality of life after a diagnosis is a critical component of our nation's fight against the disease.


Sincerely,



Leonard Lance  
Member of Congress



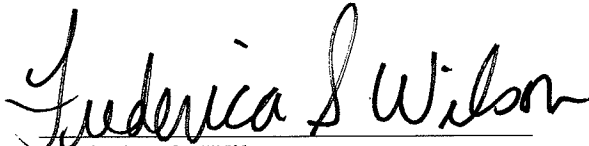
Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



Michael T. McCaul  
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan  
Member of Congress



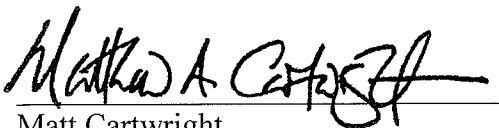
Dan Benishek  
Member of Congress



Donald M. Payne Jr.  
Member of Congress




Scott Peters  
Member of Congress

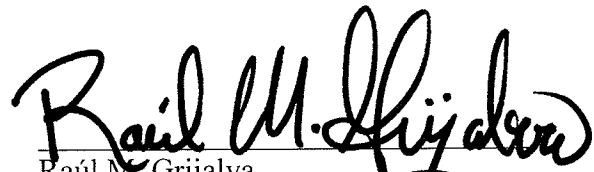


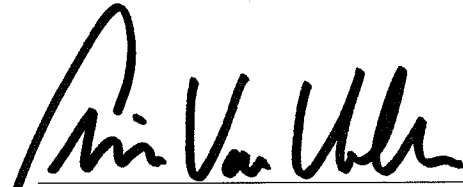
Matt Cartwright  
Member of Congress

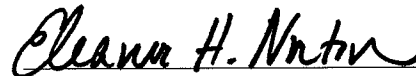


Ron Kind  
Member of Congress

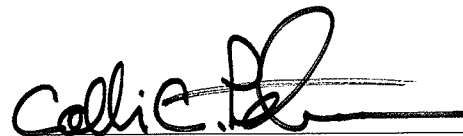
  
Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress

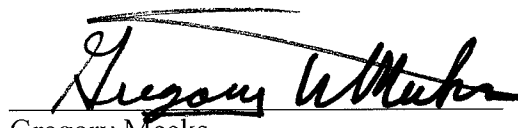
  
Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress

  
Chris Van Hollen  
Member of Congress

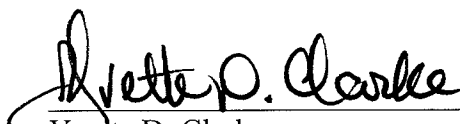
  
Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress

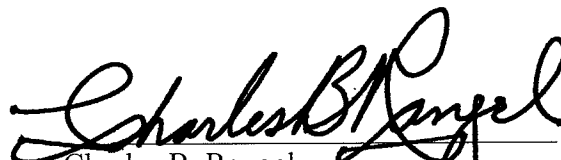
  
Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress

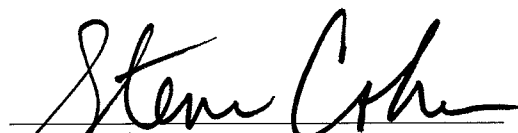
  
Collin C. Peterson  
Member of Congress


  
Gregory Meeks  
Member of Congress

  
G. K. Butterfield  
Member of Congress

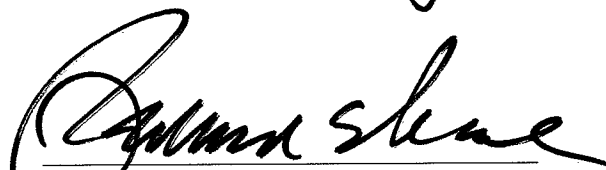
  
Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress

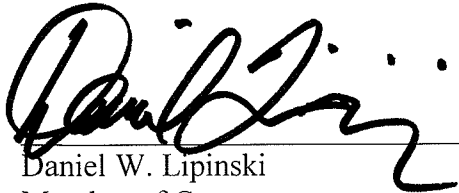
  
Charles B. Rangel  
Member of Congress

  
Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress

  
John Conyers, Jr.  
Member of Congress

  
Ben Ray Lujan  
Member of Congress

  
Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress

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

Daniel W. Lipinski  
Member of Congress