

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 22, 2013

The Honorable Jack Kingston, Chairman
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor
Health and Human Services, and Education
2358-B Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor
Health and Human Services, and Education
1016 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Kingston and Ranking Member DeLauro;

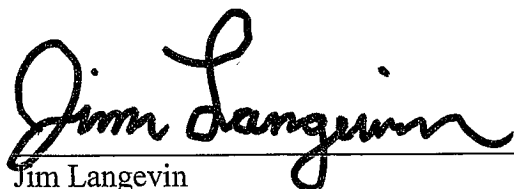
As you prepare the FY 2014 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations bill in this difficult budgetary climate, we respectfully request that you include at least level funding of \$38.9 million for University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) and \$28.4 million for the Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LENDs) program.

UCEDDs are a network of 67 centers across almost every state, district and territory. They provide interdisciplinary training, community services, research, technical assistance and information dissemination to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. UCEDDs exist to provide a unique, expert, state and community resource to facilitate independence and full participation in the community for people of all ages living with developmental and other disabilities.

LENDs, a network of 43 programs across most states, have been funded for over 20 years to provide leadership training to health and allied health professionals in approximately 12 disciplines in the identification, assessment, and treatment of children and youth with a wide range of developmental disabilities, including autism, intellectual disabilities, cerebral palsy, spina bifida, Downs syndrome, epilepsy and a wide range of genetic and metabolic disorders.

These programs provide critical, state-based resources to individuals and families coping with developmental disabilities. We thank you for your previous support of these critical programs and hope you will continue strong funding in the FY 2014 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education Appropriations bill to support the approximately four million individuals who live with developmental disabilities in the United States.

Sincerely,



Jim Langevin
Member of Congress



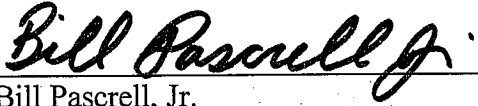
Rush Holt
Member of Congress



Madeleine Z. Bordallo
Member of Congress



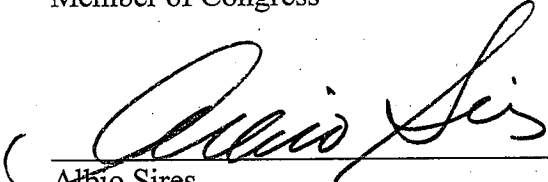
André Carson
Member of Congress



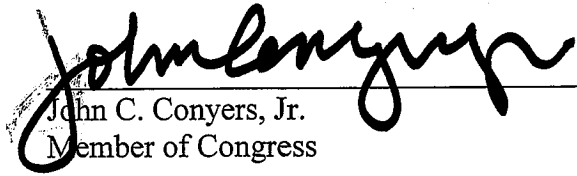
Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



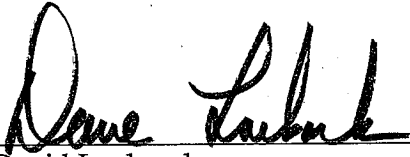
Don Young
Member of Congress



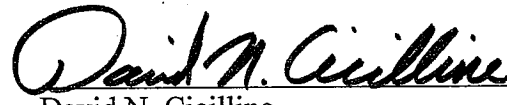
Albio Sires
Member of Congress



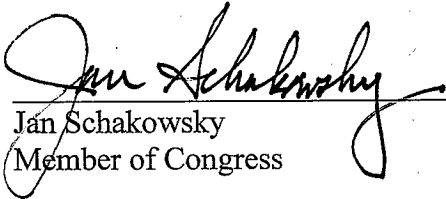
John C. Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress



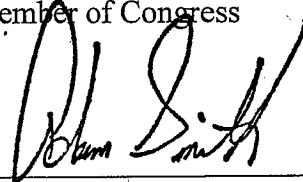
David Loeb sack
Member of Congress



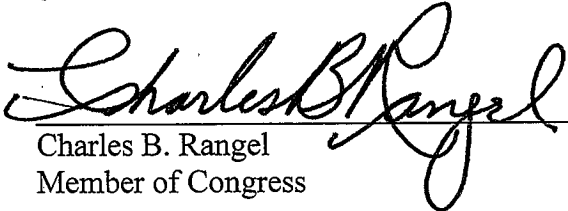
David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



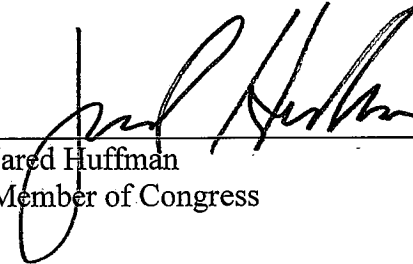
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Charles B. Rangel
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress