

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 15, 2013

The Honorable Frank Wolf
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
H-309 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chaka Fattah
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Wolf and Ranking Member Fattah:

As you prepare the FY2014 Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations Act, we urge you to include FY 2012 funding levels for the Economic Development Administration (EDA).

FY 2012 funding could provide hundreds of additional planning grants, large public works projects and economic adjustment grants to help communities that have seen industries close or relocate overseas. These investments would have an enormous impact across hundreds of small and rural communities.

Since 1965, EDA has worked directly with stakeholders to address the needs of rural communities throughout the country. Together with local funds and private investments, EDA has helped build water treatment systems, broadband networks, workforce training centers, business incubators, intermodal facilities, and science and research parks. These projects create jobs in the short-term and make it easier for businesses to grow over time. They make our companies more competitive and help prevent jobs from moving overseas. Between FY 2009 and 2011, EDA helped local partners create more than 186,000 jobs.

In addition to creating jobs, the EDA awards provide a tremendous return on taxpayer investment. In 2008, an independent report by Grant Thornton confirmed that EDA investments in rural areas "have a statistically significant impact on employment levels." On average, every dollar the agency invests leverages another \$6.90 in private and public funds. With well over four million private sector jobs created and roughly \$150 billion in private sector investment leveraged since its inception, the EDA has amassed an impressive record of assisting communities struggling to overcome both long-term economic challenges and sudden economic hardships.

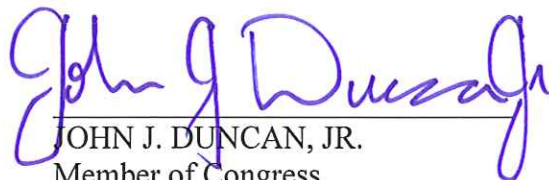
As our country continues to recover from the effects of the recession, we cannot afford to reduce funding for an agency that helps regions and communities respond to shifts in

international markets, address severe unemployment challenges and recover from plant closures, major natural disasters and other severe economic hardships. We sincerely hope that you will fund the EDA at the FY 2012 funding level.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL H. MICHAUD
Member of Congress



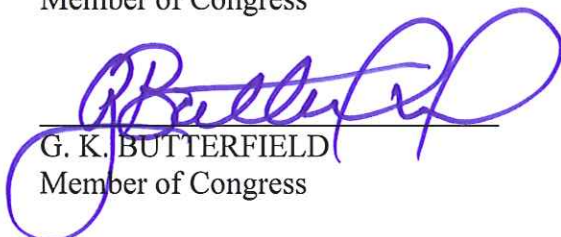
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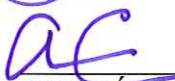
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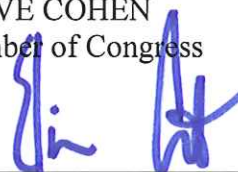
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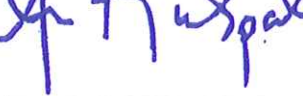

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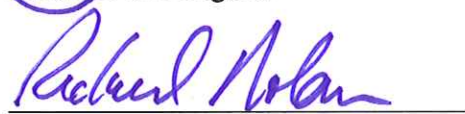

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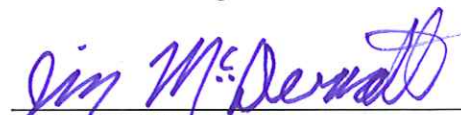

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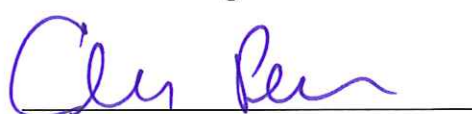

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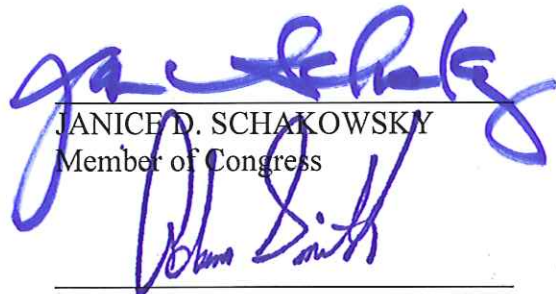

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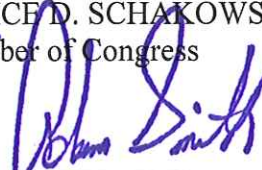

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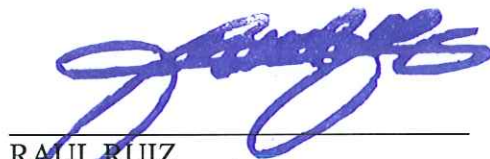
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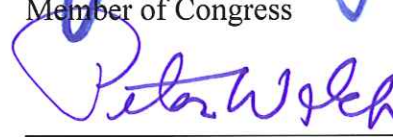
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