

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 1, 2024

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLauro:

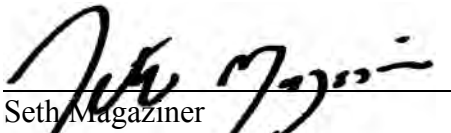
As you begin work on this year's Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies appropriations bill, we ask that you provide robust funding for the Federal Pell Grant Program in Fiscal Year 2025 in order to facilitate increasing the maximum individual award to \$13,000. We also ask that appropriators secure the long-term affordability impact of the Pell Grant program for years to come by indexing the maximum award amount to inflation and ensuring that funding for the program is fully mandatory, rather than discretionary. These policy changes will ensure that the financial support the Pell Grant program provides to students as they pursue higher education will be insulated from market changes or budget shortfalls.

While the Committee has made significant strides to increase the maximum grant, the 2024-2025 award year still falls short of what is needed to make college affordable to the lowest-income students. Congress must increase the annual Pell Grant to \$13,000, which on average would cut student debt at least in half for eligible recipients, helping an estimated 25.2 million students per year. Increased tuition costs, as well expenses like textbooks, housing, food, and transportation, have drastically diminished Pell's purchasing power. This places greater strain on the students and families that the program was designed to help. Increasing the maximum Pell Grant will significantly improve the award's purchasing power, thus ensuring it will truly benefit the students and families that need it most.

For 52 years, Pell Grants have provided much needed financial assistance to low-income families, unlocking higher education opportunities for millions of students. Because these grants are awarded solely based upon a student's financial need and do not have to be repaid, they are often the only vehicle available to low- and moderate-income students to pay for a college education. Strengthening the program will not only make college more affordable, but it will also improve outcomes by providing grant recipients more opportunity to focus on school, helping them cover their basic needs, and eliminating barriers to completion. Helping low- and moderate-income students obtain a college degree will promote equity and strengthen our communities, workforces, and nation. This investment will reinforce our national commitment to promoting opportunity to obtain a college education regardless of family income.


Thank you again for your attention to this critical issue. We look forward to working with you on ways to expand access to a quality higher education.

Sincerely,



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Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress




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Maxine Waters  
Member of Congress



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Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



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Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress




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Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress



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Richard E. Neal  
Member of Congress



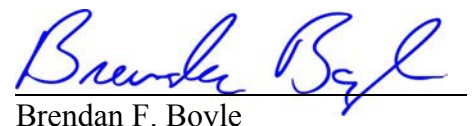
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Lizzie Fletcher  
Member of Congress



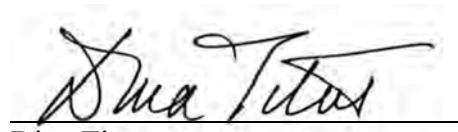
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Lucy McBath  
Member of Congress




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Brendan F. Boyle  
Member of Congress



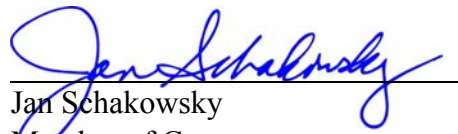
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Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



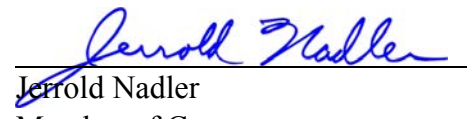
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Donald S. Beyer Jr.  
Member of Congress



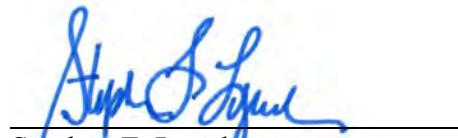
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Jan Schakowsky  
Member of Congress




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Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



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Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



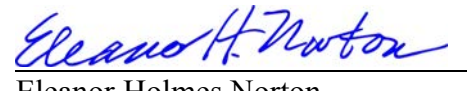
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Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



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Andy Kim  
Member of Congress




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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



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Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress

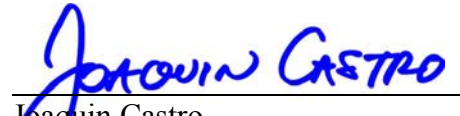


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Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress



John Garamendi  
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



Marilyn Strickland  
Member of Congress



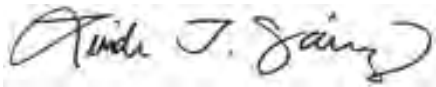
Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez  
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



André Carson  
Member of Congress




William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



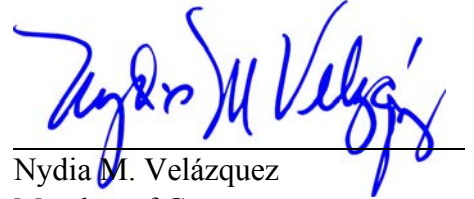
Chris Pappas  
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



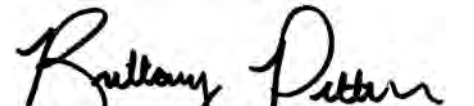
Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



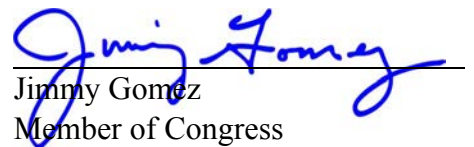
Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



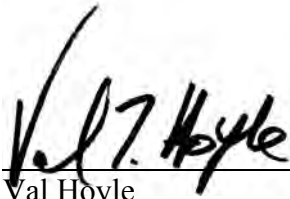
Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress



Angie Craig  
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



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Val Hoyle  
Member of Congress



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Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



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Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



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Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan  
Member of Congress



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Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



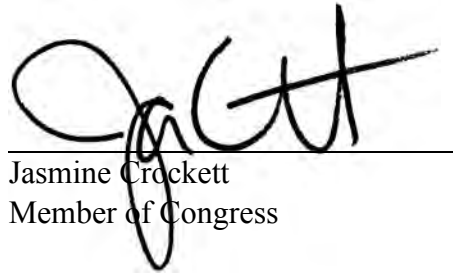
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James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



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J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress



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Jasmine Crockett  
Member of Congress



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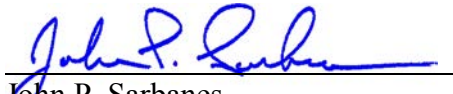
Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



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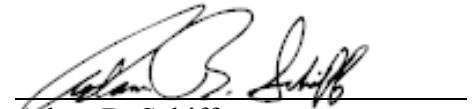
Katie Porter  
Member of Congress






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John P. Sarbanes  
Member of Congress




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Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress




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Donald M. Payne, Jr.  
Member of Congress



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Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress



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Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress




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Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress




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Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



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Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress



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Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



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David Scott  
Member of Congress



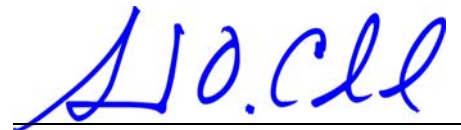
Tony Cardenas  
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



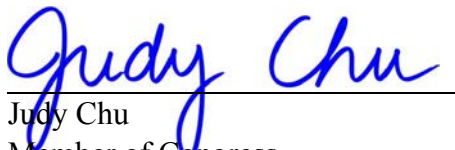
Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Lisa Blunt Rochester  
Member of Congress



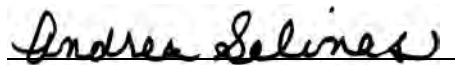
Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress



Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress

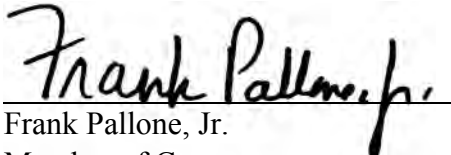


Andrea Salinas  
Member of Congress



Stacey E. Plaskett  
Member of Congress






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Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Member of Congress




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Colin Z. Allred  
Member of Congress



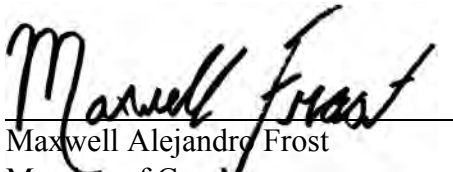
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Dan Goldman  
Member of Congress



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Mike Thompson  
Member of Congress



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Maxwell Alejandro Frost  
Member of Congress




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Jason Crow  
Member of Congress



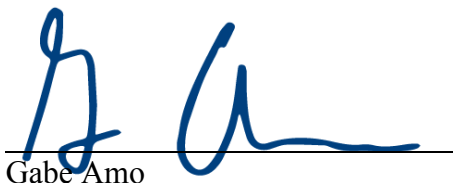
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Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



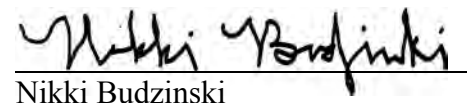
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Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



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Gabe Amo  
Member of Congress



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Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



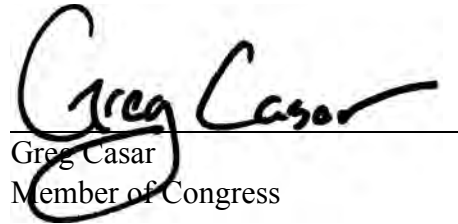
Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



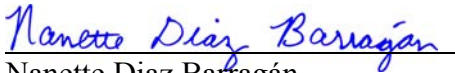
Bradley Scott Schneider  
Member of Congress



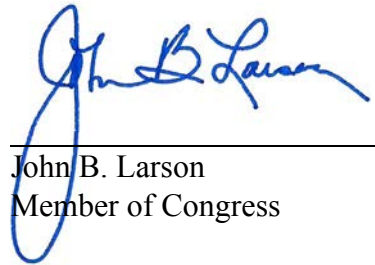
Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress



Greg Casar  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



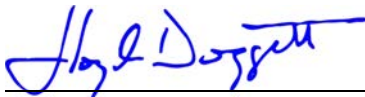
John B. Larson  
Member of Congress



Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



Robert Garcia  
Member of Congress



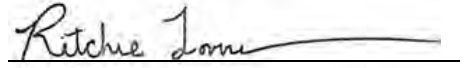
Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



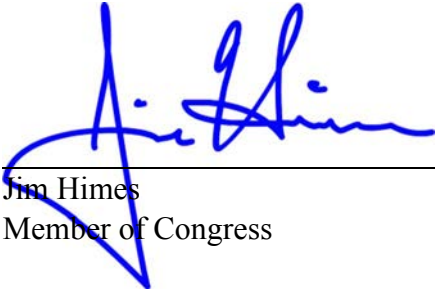
Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.  
Member of Congress



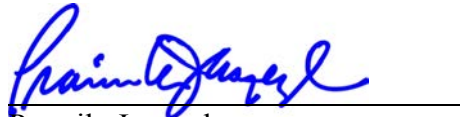
Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



Jim Himes  
Member of Congress



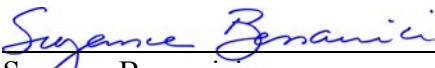
Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton  
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Member of Congress



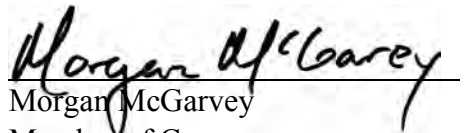
Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress



Troy Carter  
Member of Congress



Morgan McGarvey  
Member of Congress



Cori Bush  
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



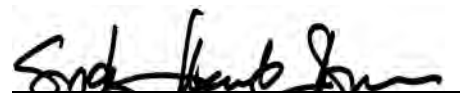
Adam Smith  
Member of Congress



Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee  
on Higher Education and  
Workforce Development



Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress



Sydney Kamlager-Dove  
Member of Congress



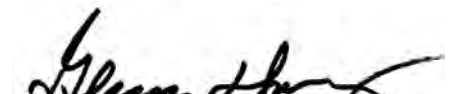
Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell  
Member of Congress



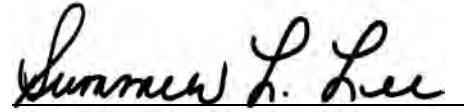
Jake Auchincloss  
Member of Congress



Glenn Ivey  
Member of Congress



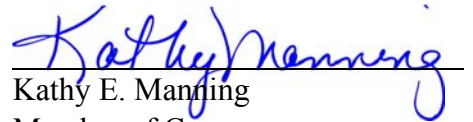
Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



Summer Lee  
Member of Congress




Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress



Kathy E. Manning  
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly  
Member of Congress



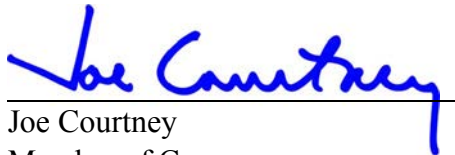
Jim Tokuda  
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress




Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress




Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress




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Suzan K. DelBene  
Member of Congress



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Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress



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Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



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Rick Larsen  
Member of Congress



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Patrick K. Ryan  
Member of Congress



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Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress