

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 14, 2016

The Honorable Sylvia Mathews Burwell  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Ave. SW  
Washington, D.C. 20021

Dear Secretary Burwell:

We are writing to applaud the Food and Drug Administration's recent approval of Probuphine, the first buprenorphine implant for the maintenance treatment of opioid dependence and to urge you to work with providers and manufacturers to make it affordable and accessible to everyone struggling with addiction.

As the scientific understanding of opioid addiction grows, we have a responsibility to treat it like the medical condition it is. Expanding the use and availability of medication-assisted treatment options like buprenorphine is key to combating this growing public health crisis. Medication-assisted treatment is cost-effective and has been proven to help patients recover from opioid use disorder and reduce fatal overdoses. The approval of this new implant could save lives and help those struggling with addiction without the risk that a dose is forgotten, stolen or abused.

All of our districts have been impacted by this epidemic. We again urge you to ensure that new treatments like the buprenorphine implant are affordable and accessible to everyone. We look forward to continuing to partner with you as we combat this epidemic.

Sincerely,

  
Bill Foster  
Member of Congress

  
Frank C. Guinta  
Member of Congress

  
Ann McLane Kuster  
Member of Congress

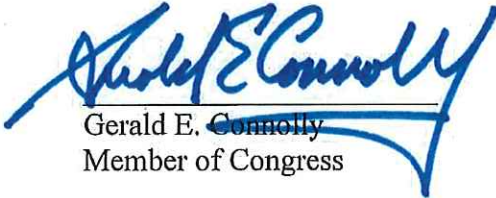
  
Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress



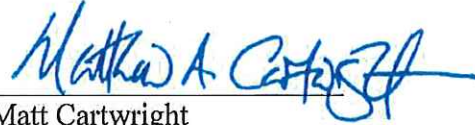
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Member of Congress



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Matt Cartwright  
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Steve Cohen  
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Raul Ruiz  
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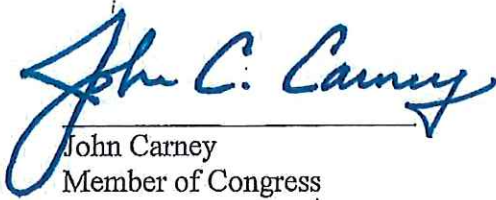
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Eric Swalwell  
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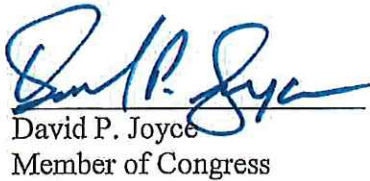
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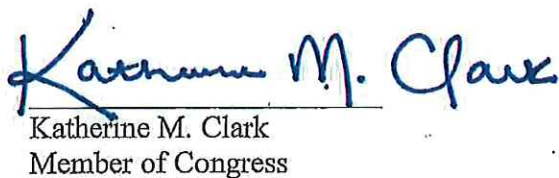
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Elise Steffanik  
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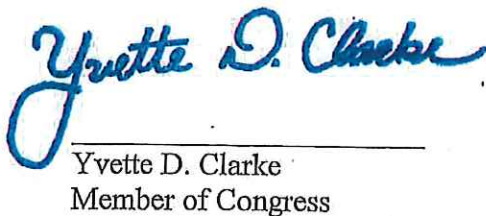
Alan Grayson  
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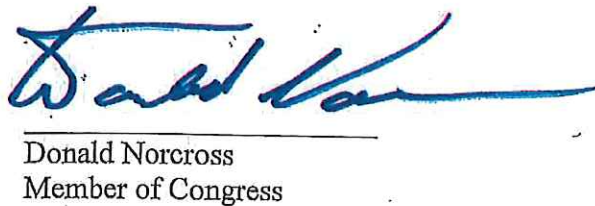
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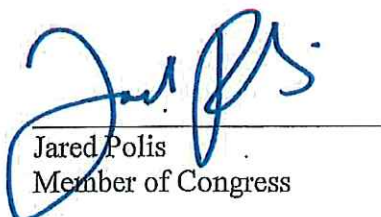
Terri Sewell  
Member of Congress



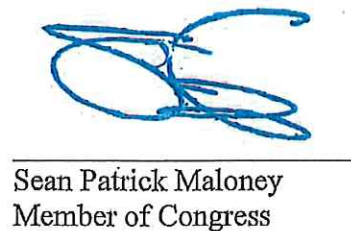
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Jared Polis  
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Sean Patrick Maloney  
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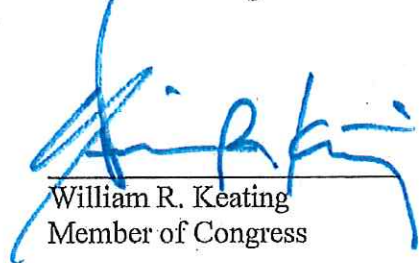




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