

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 28, 2016

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan and Minority Leader Pelosi,

For more than 40 years, the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program has played a critical role in supporting our local communities by providing critical resources to nearly 1,900 counties across 49 states to offset lost property tax revenue due to the presence of tax-exempt federal lands within their jurisdictions. As 2016 comes to an end, we urge you to work in a bipartisan, bicameral fashion to ensure the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program is fully funded for FY 2017 and beyond.

For FY 2017, the U.S. Department of the Interior has estimated that \$480 million dollars will be necessary to fully fund PILT. If Congress fails to fully fund the PILT program by the end of the year, public lands counties across the nation will be unable to provide essential public services such as: law enforcement, search and rescue, public health and critical transportation infrastructure.

Current discretionary appropriations for the PILT program are set to expire on September 30, 2016. Without the certainty of full PILT funding for FY 2017, we risk severely crippling counties' ability to provide essential services for their residents and public lands visitors alike.

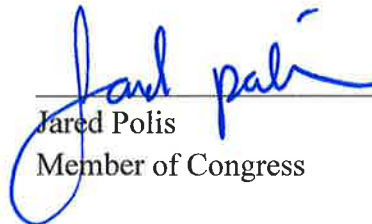
Moving forward, we hope Congress can work together to enact a fiscally responsible, long-term and sustainable solution to fully fund PILT in FY17 and beyond. As counties across the United States work to balance their budgets, it is essential that Congress act to reaffirm the federal government's long-standing commitment to public lands counties by fully funding PILT.

We look forward to working with you to end the financial uncertainty facing thousands of counties nationwide, and we thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Chris Stewart
Member of Congress



Jared Polis
Member of Congress



Derek Kilmer

Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar

Member of Congress



Jim Costa

Member of Congress



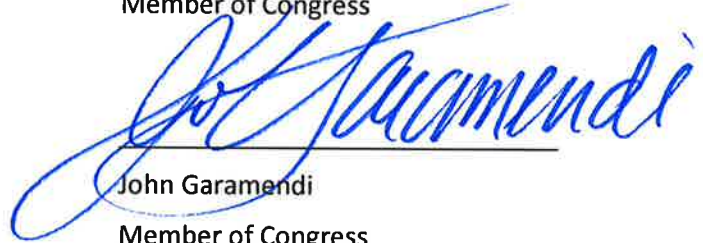
Michelle Lujan Grisham

Member of Congress



Kyrsten Sinema

Member of Congress




John Garamendi

Member of Congress



Suzan DelBene

Member of Congress



Mia Love

Member of Congress



Ryan Zinke

Member of Congress



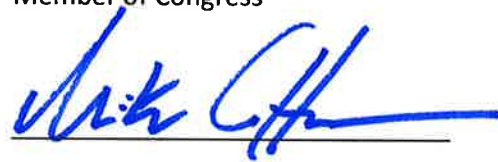
Chuck Fleischmann

Member of Congress



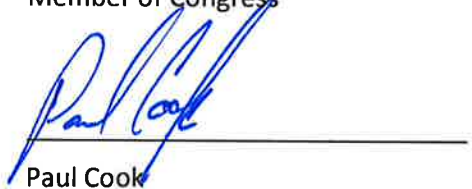
Steven Pearce

Member of Congress



Mike Coffman

Member of Congress



Paul Cook

Member of Congress



Doug Lamborn

Member of Congress



Louie Gohmert

Member of Congress



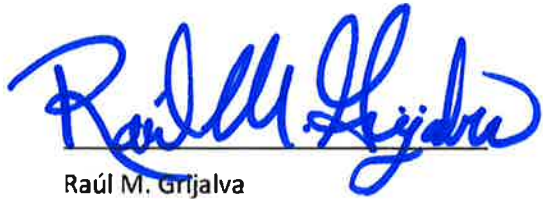
Jaime Herrera Beutler

Member of Congress



Walter B. Jones

Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva

Member of Congress



Dina Titus

Member of Congress



Don Young

Member of Congress



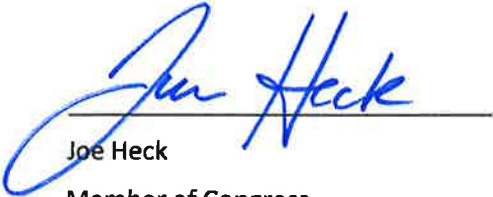
Suzanne Bonamici

Member of Congress



Bruce Westerman

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Joe Heck

Member of Congress



Evan Jenkins

Member of Congress



Mark E. Amodei

Member of Congress



Robert Aderholt

Member of Congress



Glenn 'GT' Thompson

Member of Congress



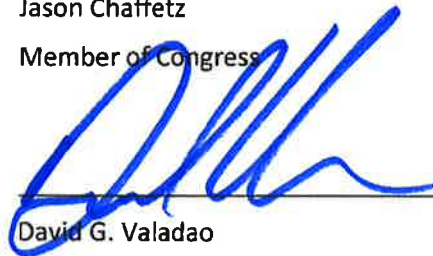
Jason Chaffetz

Member of Congress



Dan Benishek

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David G. Valadao

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Rob Bishop

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Curt Clawson

Member of Congress



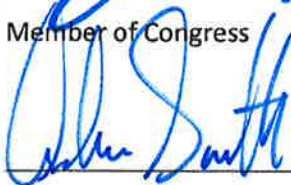
Michael Simpson
Member of Congress



Steven Palazzo
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Doug LaMalfa
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Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



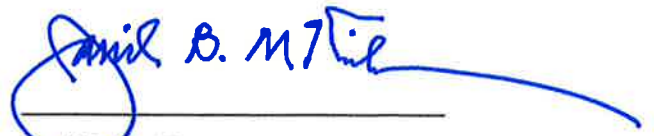
Gregg Harper
Member of Congress



Lois Capps
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Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



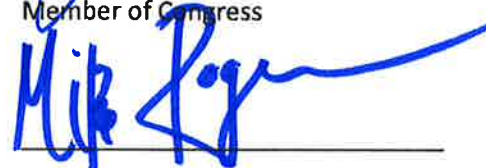
David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



Ann Kirkpatrick
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Mike Rogers
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Carlos Curbelo
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Martha McSally
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Steve Knight
Member of Congress



Cresent Hardy
Member of Congress



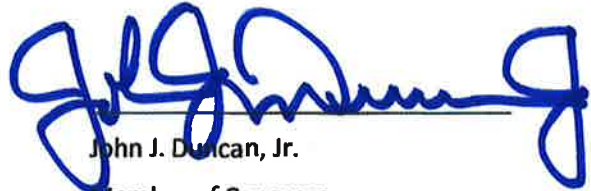
Kristi Noem
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Kurt Schrader
Member of Congress



Matt Salmon
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John J. Duncan, Jr.
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Kevin Cramer
Member of Congress



Rick Nolan
Member of Congress



Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress



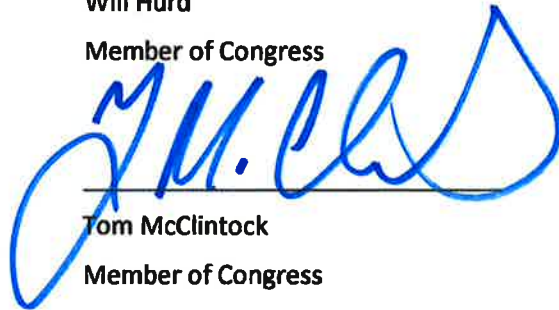
Ken Buck
Member of Congress



Will Hurd
Member of Congress



Sean Duffy
Member of Congress



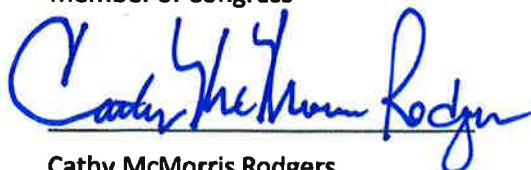
Tom McClintock
Member of Congress



Mark Takano
Member of Congress



Denny Heck
Member of Congress



Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Scott Peters
Member of Congress



Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress



Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Lujan
Member of Congress



Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



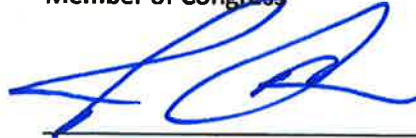
Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress



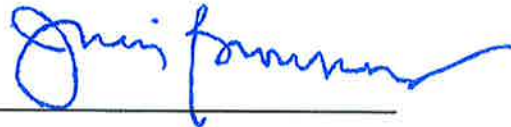
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress




Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress



Ralph Abraham, M.D.
Member of Congress




Julia Brownley
Member of Congress




Stacey Plaskett
Member of Congress



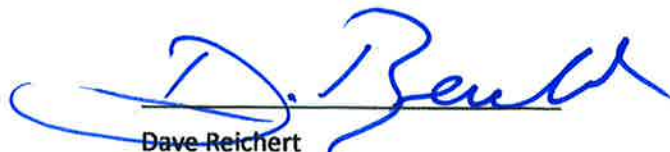
Cynthia Lummis
Member of Congress



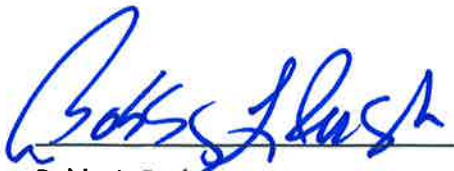
Scott R. Tipton
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Dave Reichert
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush

Member of Congress



Mark Pocan

Member of Congress



Trent Franks

Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez

Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson

Member of Congress



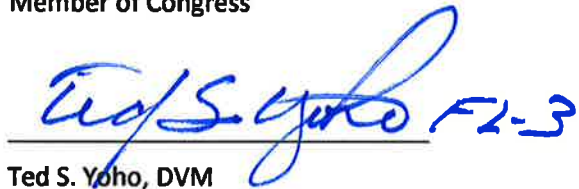
Joe Wilson

Member of Congress



Roger Williams

Member of Congress



Ted S. Yoho, DVM

Member of Congress



Andy Barr

Member of Congress



H. Morgan Griffith

Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz

Member of Congress



Bob Goodlatte

Member of Congress



Madeleine Bordallo

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