

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 16, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-232, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

Our brave law enforcement officers put their lives on the line every single day to help protect those in harm's way. However, with crime rates surging nationwide, these same courageous men and women are increasingly under attack.

In fact, last year 346 police officers were shot in the line of duty, a 30 percent increase from the previous year. Heartbreakingly, 73 of those individuals lost their lives. Ambush-style attacks on police officers also spiked by a staggering 125 percent in 2021.

We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to police officers and first responders all across the country and they need to know that we have their backs. And anyone who targets them because of the uniform they wear needs to know that there will be severe consequences.

That's why we are urging you to bring the Thin Blue Line Act (H.R. 72) to the House floor for a vote as soon as possible. This important legislation would make the murder or attempted murder of a police officer or other first responder an "aggravating" factor in death penalty determinations. In the 115th Congress, the House approved this measure with broad bipartisan support.

Several leading national law enforcement organizations have endorsed the legislation including the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) and the National Association of Police Officers (NAPO). NAPO has said "This bill is critical, as law enforcement officer assaults, injuries, and deaths have increased sharply in recent years."

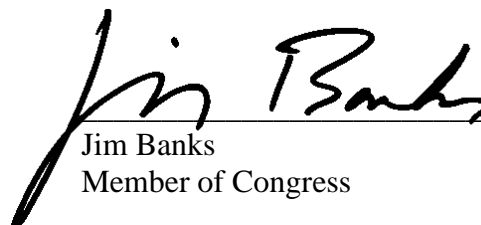
With 123 police officers already shot and 19 killed in the line of duty so far this year, the House must swiftly act to protect our frontline heroes and send a clear message to those who target police – you will be held accountable.

Again, we urge you to take immediate action on this legislation and look forward to hearing back on this critically important matter.

Sincerely,



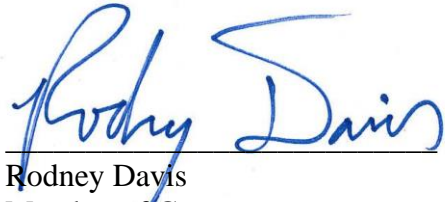
Vern Buchanan  
Member of Congress



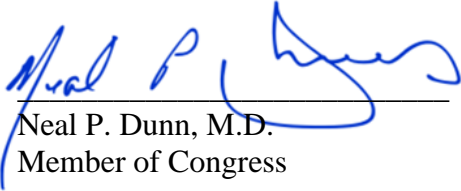
Jim Banks  
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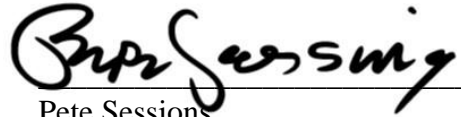
Mike Johnson  
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Rodney Davis  
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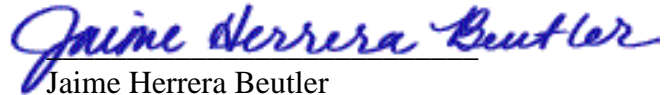
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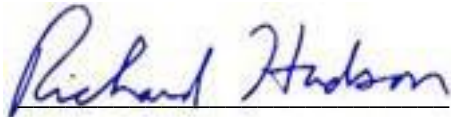
Jaime Herrera Beutler  
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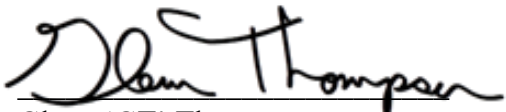
Kat Cammack  
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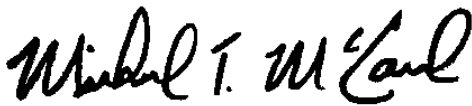
Gus M. Bilirakis  
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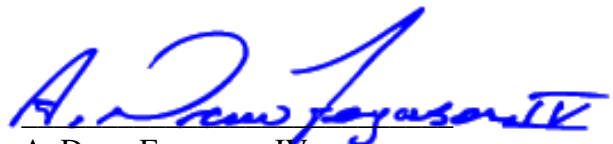
Glenn 'GT' Thompson  
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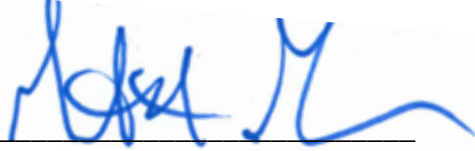
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Earl L. "Buddy" Carter  
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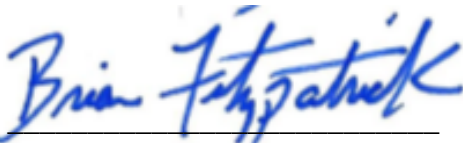
Ralph Norman  
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Carlos Gimenez  
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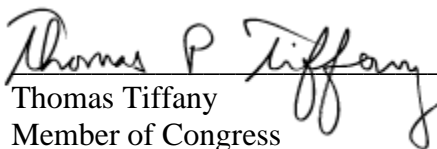
Brian K. Fitzpatrick  
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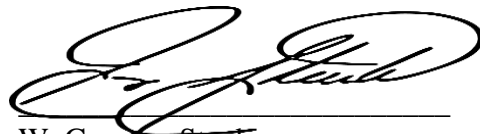
Michael Waltz  
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Bill Johnson  
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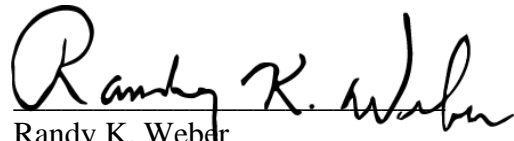
Thomas Tiffany  
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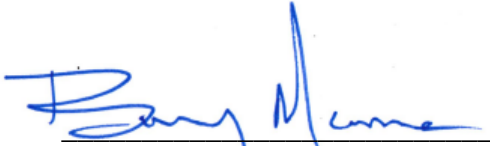
W. Gregory Steube  
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Andrew R. Garbarino  
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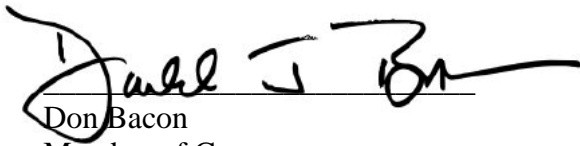
Randy K. Weber  
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Barry Moore  
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Nicole Malliotakis  
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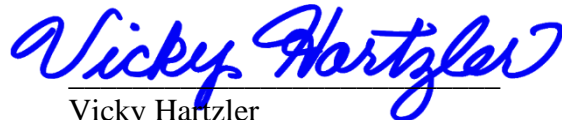
Don Bacon  
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David Kustoff  
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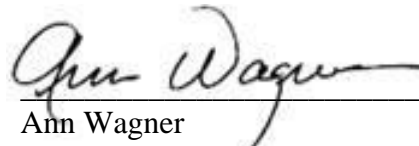
Mo Brooks  
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Vicky Hartzler  
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Steven Palazzo  
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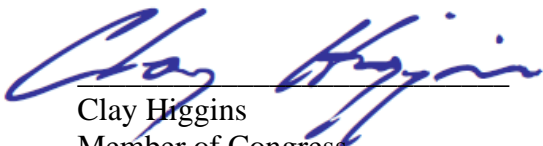
Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress



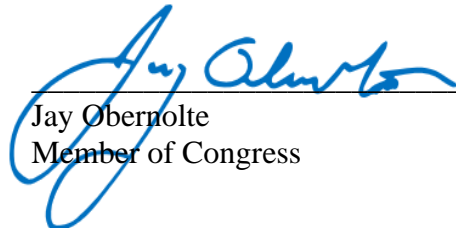
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David Valadao  
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Clay Higgins  
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Jay Obernolte  
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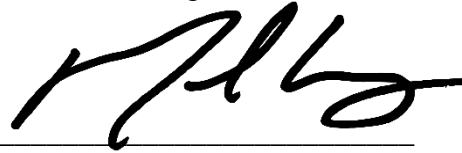
Daniel P. Meuser  
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Jodey C. Arrington  
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Ted Budd  
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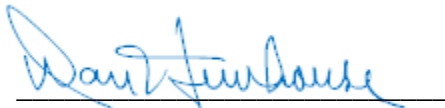
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María Elvira Salazar  
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