

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

March 29, 2023

The Honorable David Joyce  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
2006 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Henry Cuellar  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Joyce and Ranking Member Cuellar:

As you develop the fiscal year 2024 (FY24) Homeland Security Appropriations bill, we write to request that you include \$30 million in the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Operations and Support (O&S) account for Handheld Trace Level Fentanyl Detection Devices.

This funding would provide for the procurement and deployment of up to 300 additional handheld mass spectrometry trace level chemical detection devices for use at ports of entry, including airports, seaports, border crossings, international mail facilities and laboratories throughout the country. These devices are capable of detecting the presence of even the smallest amount of fentanyl in substances seized by CBP and other federal agencies.

CBP plays a critical role in stemming the flow of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids into the United States, and the success of their efforts depends on their officers having a sufficient supply of the best available technology. Handheld trace level detection devices are an important complement to other technologies, such as bulk detectors, and provide a high level of protection for those officers who are made immediately aware of the presence of the deadly substance. Onsite detection of synthetic opioids using these devices also allows for the detention of individuals attempting to bring illegal substances into the United States and assists CBP laboratories by alerting them to substances that should be prioritized for further analysis.

Pursuant to the INTERDICTION Act (PL 115-112), Congress has appropriated significant funding for CBP to increase the number of chemical screening devices available to identify fentanyl and other synthetic opioids. Some of these funds have allowed CBP to purchase, test and deploy 120 handheld mass spectrometry devices which are capable of detecting trace levels of substances like fentanyl and synthetic opioids as low as 1% purity. Additional units are needed at other CBP locations and we request that you include \$30 million in your FY24 bill to provide for the purchase and deployment of an additional 300 high pressure mass spectrometry devices to meet that need.

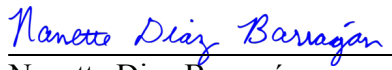
Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,



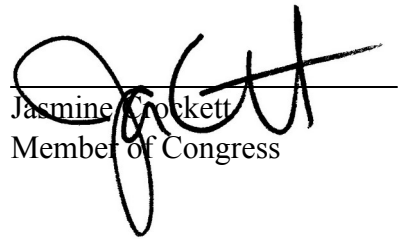
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Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



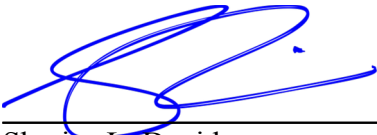
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Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress  
Chairwoman, Congressional  
Hispanic Caucus



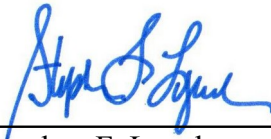
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Jasmine Crockett  
Member of Congress



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Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress



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Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress



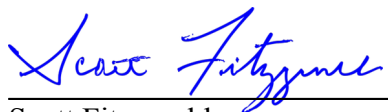
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Shontel M. Brown  
Member of Congress

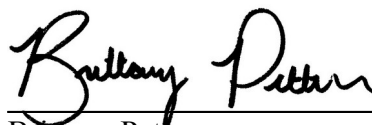


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Chris Pappas  
Member of Congress



Scott Fitzgerald  
Member of Congress



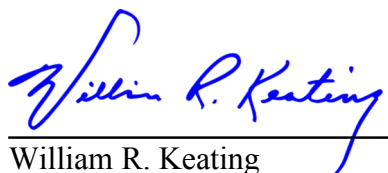
Brittany Pettersen  
Member of Congress



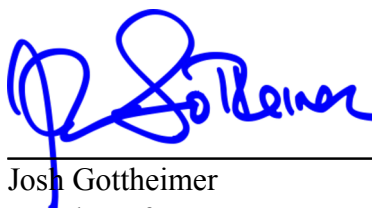
Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



Don Bacon  
Member of Congress



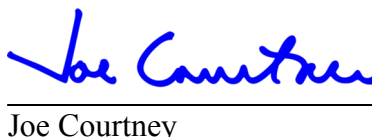
William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer  
Member of Congress



Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney  
Member of Congress



Daniel T. Kildee  
Member of Congress

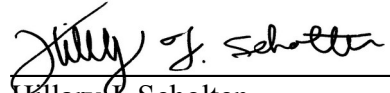


Angie Craig  
Member of Congress



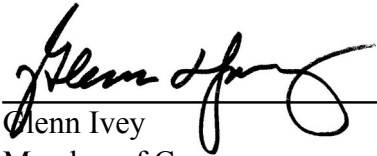
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Jimmy Panetta  
Member of Congress



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Hillary J. Scholten  
Member of Congress



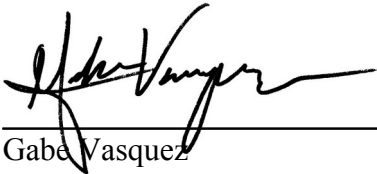
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Glenn Ivey  
Member of Congress



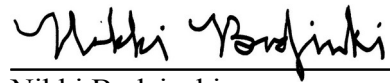
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Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress




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Gabe Vasquez  
Member of Congress



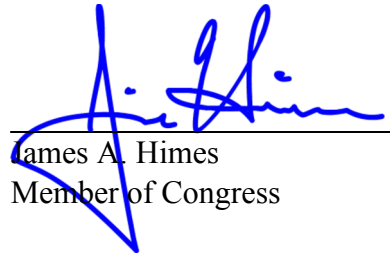
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Nikki Budzinski  
Member of Congress



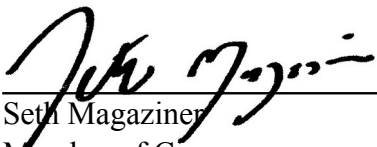
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Morgan McGarvey  
Member of Congress



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James A. Himes  
Member of Congress




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Seth Magaziner  
Member of Congress




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Elissa Slotkin  
Member of Congress



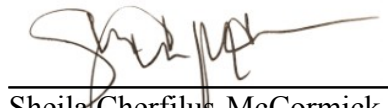
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Joe Neguse  
Member of Congress




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Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress



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Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick  
Member of Congress



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Bill Foster  
Member of Congress



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Eric Sorensen  
Member of Congress