

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 26, 2026

The Honorable Ken Calvert
Chairman
Subcommittee on Defense
House Appropriations Committee
H-405, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Defense
House Appropriations Committee
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

As you consider the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Defense Appropriations Act, we respectfully request that the Subcommittee on Defense appropriate \$110 million to the U.S. Department of Defense's (DOD's) Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP) and restore funding to the FY2024 level.

As you know, the FY2025 Continuing Resolution (CR) reduced the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program (CDMRP) by almost 60 percent. As a result, there has been a devastating loss of research funding for prostate cancer. Funded at \$75 million under the CR and in FY2026, the program did not fund any new competitive awards, focusing all of its funding on keeping the prostate cancer clinical trial consortium. In order to help make up ground, we request a FY2027 appropriation of \$110 million for the PCRP within the CDMRP. Researchers will use this funding to develop treatments that improve outcomes for men with lethal prostate cancer; reduce lethal prostate cancer in African Americans, veterans, and other high-risk populations; and improve the quality of life for survivors of prostate cancer. With prostate cancer deaths on the rise, we need your help now more than ever to increase research that will produce tools for earlier detection and later-stage treatment and save lives.

After more than two decades of progress in reducing prostate cancer deaths, there has been a recent reversal. This year, prostate cancer is estimated to be the number one diagnosed cancer in the United States, with over 330,000 men diagnosed, and more than 36,000 men will likely die from this disease. For men, it is the most diagnosed cancer as well as the second deadliest cancer (behind lung cancer). Since 2014, the incidence rate for advanced-stage prostate cancer has increased by about five percent per year. This increase is significant because while prostate cancer has a nearly 100 percent survival rate when caught early, the survival rate drops to 30 percent when the cancer has metastasized. As more men are diagnosed with late-stage cancer, death rates are increasing. It is estimated that over 500 more men will die this year of prostate cancer than in 2025, which reflects an increase of 9,000 more deaths when compared to 2017.

Since 1996, the House and Senate Appropriations Committees have been instrumental in advancing prostate cancer research by funding the DOD's CDMRP for prostate cancer. CDRMP's administrative structure has demonstrated an ability to be flexible and quickly adjust responses to changing medical research needs and priorities. The PCRP, which complements wider NIH basic science efforts, is the gold standard in prostate cancer research and an integral weapon in the national fight against prostate cancer.

Unlike the NIH, PCRP has clear priorities each year that target gaps in prostate cancer diagnostics, care, and treatment with an emphasis on meeting the needs of the prostate cancer community. The programmatic review of all proposals ensures that the government is not spending scarce dollars on duplicative research. This structure works. In the last ten years, the PCRP has produced three new treatments for metastatic prostate cancer and one new advanced diagnostic.

The PCRP is both effective and relevant to the military. Prostate cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer among male veterans. Service members on active duty also have an incidence rate that is twice that of the general population. Between 2005 and 2014, prostate cancer accounted for 11.7 percent of cancer diagnoses in active-duty men. In addition, it

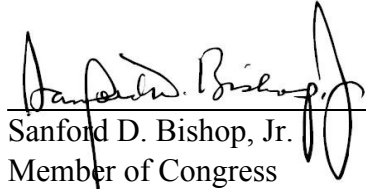
is well known that cancer diagnoses among service members or their families have a negative impact on psychological health and military readiness.

Please join us in making prostate cancer research, awareness, and early detection a national health care priority by ensuring that adequate resources are available for the DOD PCRP. We recognize the difficult task ahead in setting priorities among many needs, but we appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this request.

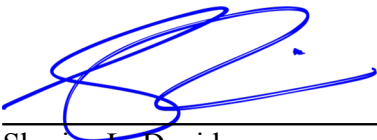
Sincerely,



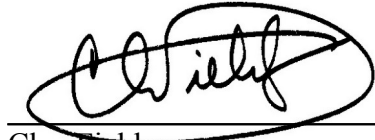
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Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



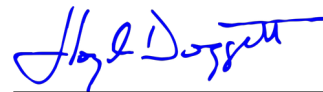
Sharice L. Davids
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Cleo Fields
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Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



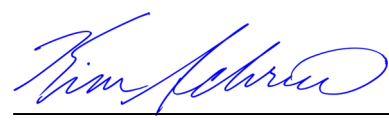
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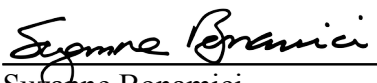
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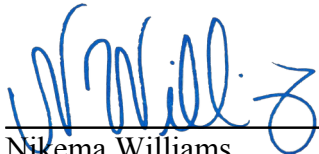
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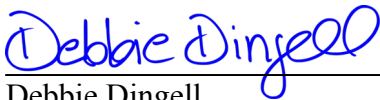
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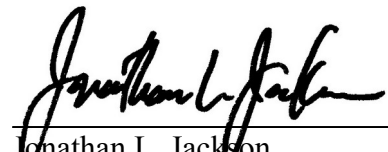
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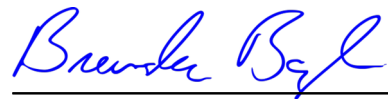
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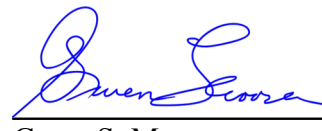
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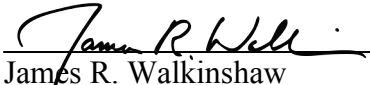
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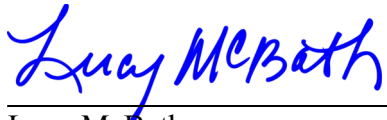
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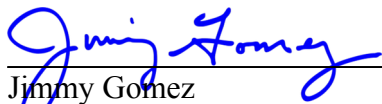
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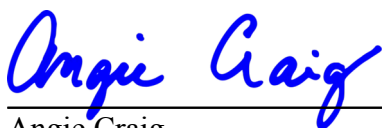
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Andre Carson
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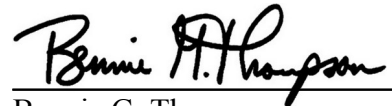
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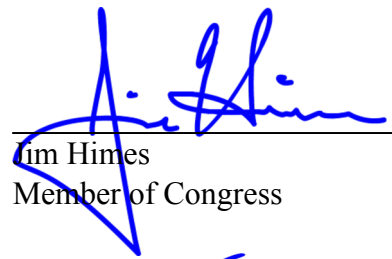
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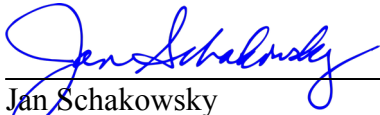
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Lizzie Fletcher
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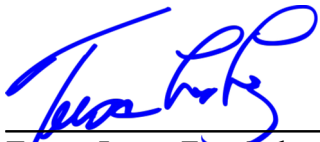
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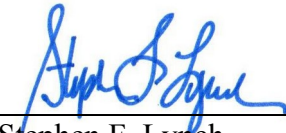
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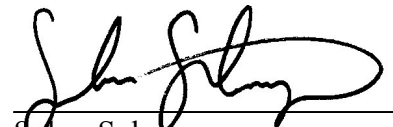
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Suhas Subramanyam
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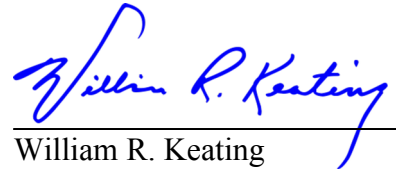
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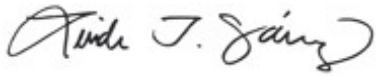
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Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



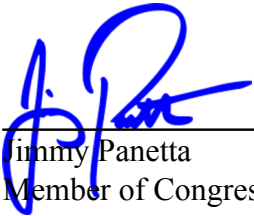
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Jimmy Panetta
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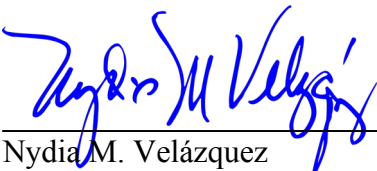
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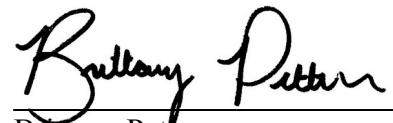
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Member of Congress



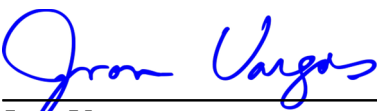
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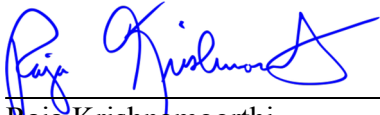
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Raja Krishnamoorthi
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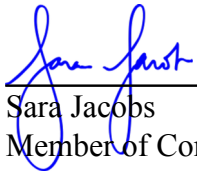
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Sara Jacobs
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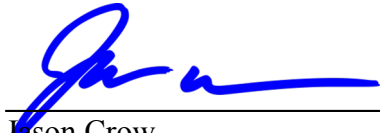
Chellie Pingree
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Thomas R. Suozzi
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Aumua Amata Coleman
Radewagen
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Jason Crow
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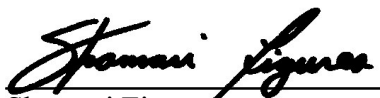
Gregory F. Murphy, M.D.
Member of Congress



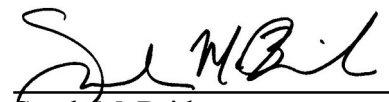
Shri Thanedar
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



Shomari Figures
Member of Congress



Sarah McBride
Member of Congress



Max L. Miller
Member of Congress



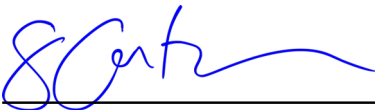
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Darren Soto
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



Sean Casten
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Jefferson Van Drew
Member of Congress



Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress



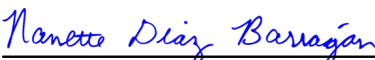
Robert J. Menendez
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Al Green
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Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



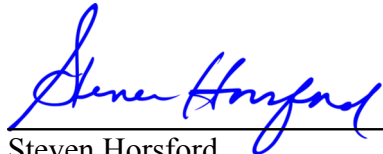
Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



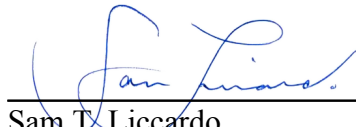
Dina Titus
Member of Congress



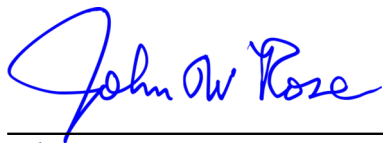
Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



Sam T. Liccardo
Member of Congress



John Rose
Member of Congress



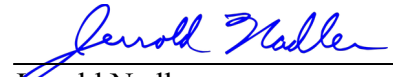
Ted W. Lieu
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Donald G. Davis
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Jesús G. "Chuy" García
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Terrold Nadler
Member of Congress



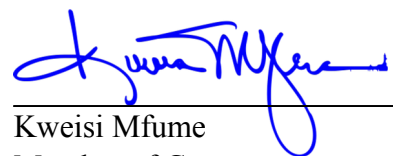
Jared Moskowitz
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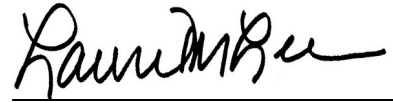
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