

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 22, 2025

Dear Utility Providers:

In light of the ongoing federal government shutdown, we write to urge you to suspend all utility shutoffs and late payment penalties for federal workers or federal contractors affected by the shutdown. Both essential and involuntarily furloughed employees are currently without pay. These workers should not face the additional hardship of losing access to running water, electricity, or internet simply because their paychecks have stopped through no fault of their own.

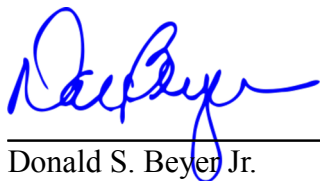
Federal employees dedicate their lives to serving our country, often in thankless yet vital roles that keep our country safe and our economy running. These are apolitical positions and the individuals who fill them should not bear the consequences of political gridlock and the current standstill that has led to this shutdown.

While Congress works to reopen the government, millions of public servants will soon begin missing paychecks. Many are parents and caregivers whose families depend on their income. They should not have to worry about whether they can keep the lights on at home. The federal workforce has endured enough uncertainty this year, and financially strained households tend to forgo paying for other essential needs, such as food and health care, in order to avoid utility shutoffs. A utility shutoff would make these families more likely to be exposed to unsafe household conditions that lack safe temperatures, water, or communication. This should be prevented by all means possible.

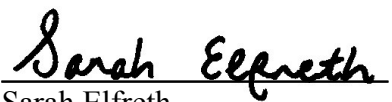
Suspending utility shutoffs for federal workers during a government shutdown is in line with existing statutory protections across the country. Over two-thirds of states have laws on the books to protect vulnerable populations from utility shutoffs. The Government Employee Fair Treatment Act of 2019 guarantees that federal employees will receive full back pay once a lapse in appropriations ends, ensuring they can meet their outstanding debts accrued during the shutdown. Therefore, we urge you to temporarily withhold all utility service disconnections and suspend late payment penalties for federal employees and provide flexible payment plans once their pay resumes.

Shutdowns cause atypical and undue economic hardship. We appreciate your consideration and sincerely hope you understand the urgency and necessity of protecting federal workers under these exceptional circumstances.

Sincerely,



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



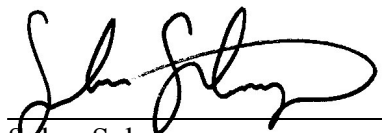
Sarah Elfreth
Member of Congress



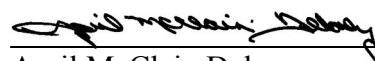
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Eugene Simon Vindman
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress



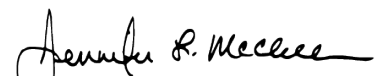
April McClain Delaney
Member of Congress



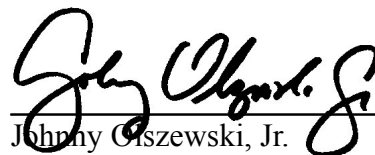
Glenn Ivey
Member of Congress



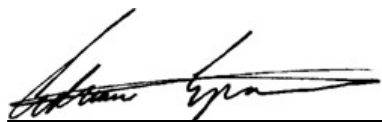
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



Johnny Ciszewski, Jr.
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



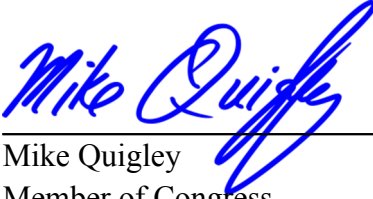
Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Becca Balint
Member of Congress



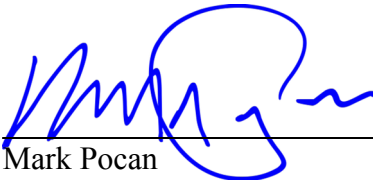
Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



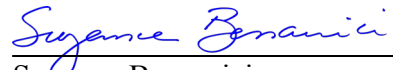
Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



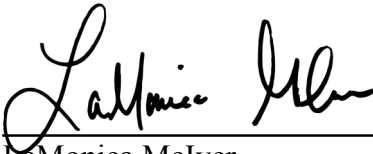
Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



Susie Lee
Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.
Member of Congress



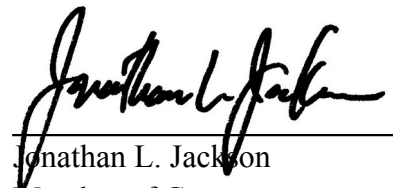
LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



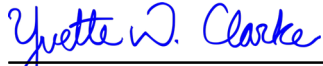
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress



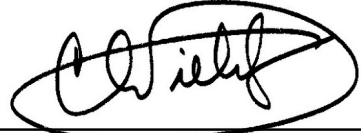
Robert Garcia
Member of Congress



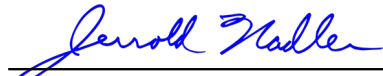
Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



Cleo Fields
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



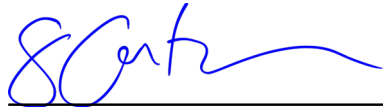
J. Luis Correa
Member of Congress



Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



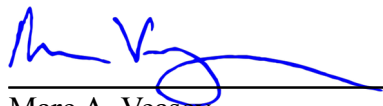
Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress



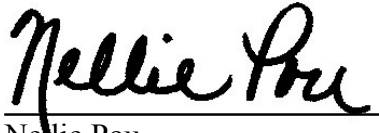
Sean Casten
Member of Congress



Herbert C. Conaway, Jr.
Member of Congress



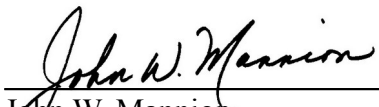
Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



Nellie Pou
Member of Congress



Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



John W. Mannion
Member of Congress



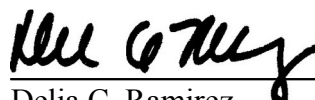
Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress



Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress



Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



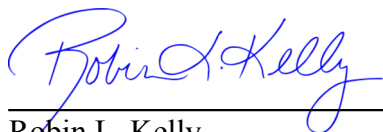
Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



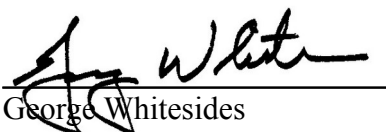
Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



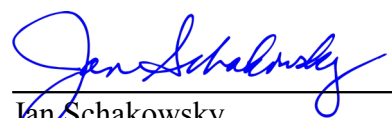
George Whitesides
Member of Congress



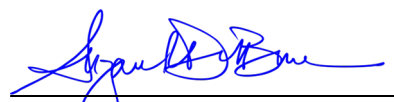
Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress