

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

March 12, 2020

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

As you begin work on the fiscal year 2021 (FY 2021) Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we request \$25.5 million for the National Violent Death Reporting System within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention budget for FY 2021.

Each year more than 64,000 Americans die violently.<sup>1</sup> The National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) is state-based system that centralizes information from a variety of state and local agencies and sources such as law enforcement, medical examiners, crime labs, and death certificates to provide a more comprehensive picture of the circumstances surrounding violent deaths. The system tracks deaths caused by child abuse, domestic abuse, suicide, and homicide which enables states to develop effective strategies to address root causes and implement strategies for prevention. Furthermore, the NVDRS allows the public health research community to access a rich data set that can be analyzed to study the circumstances that lead to violent deaths in our communities.

For example, in North Carolina, NVDRS data showed that women were seven times more likely than men to be killed by a spouse, ex-spouse, or lover. Knowing the profiles of these victims and suspects can lead to appropriate interventions for prevention of intimate partner violence. Estimates like the example above are based solely on information obtained from states funded to participate in the NVDRS.

In FY 2018, NVDRS reached nationwide expansion for the first time. As of September, 2019, all 50 states, Washington, DC, and Puerto Rico have joined the program. Data collected through NVDRS has led to effective programs in participating states all across the country, which have reduced suicide rates and other instances of violent deaths.<sup>2</sup> Given these positive results, it is vital to fund the program at \$25.5 million to ensure all states remain in the program and increase

<sup>1</sup>[https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/datasources/nvdrs/index.html?CDC\\_AA\\_reVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fviolenceprevention%2Fnvdrs%2Findex.html](https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/datasources/nvdrs/index.html?CDC_AA_reVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fviolenceprevention%2Fnvdrs%2Findex.html)

<sup>2</sup> [https://c.y.mcdn.com/sites/safestates.site-ym.com/resource/resmgr/NVDRS/NVDRS\\_Stories\\_complete\\_repor.pdf](https://c.y.mcdn.com/sites/safestates.site-ym.com/resource/resmgr/NVDRS/NVDRS_Stories_complete_repor.pdf)

their data collection to allow all states to design and implement targeted violent-death prevention programs.

We believe that the NVDRS is a cost-effective and integral component to the long-term success of local efforts to better understand and ultimately reduce violent deaths in our communities.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful attention to this matter.

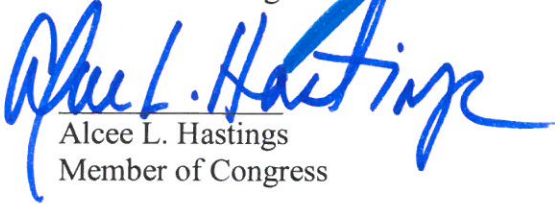
Sincerely,



Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



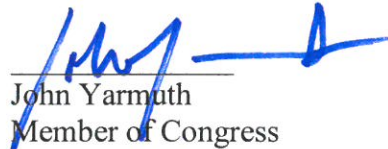
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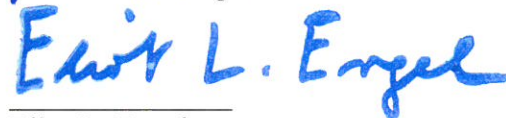
Nanette Diaz Barragán  
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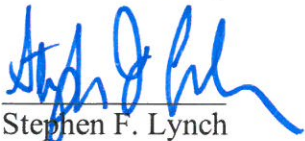
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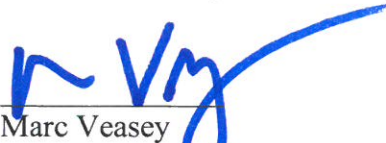
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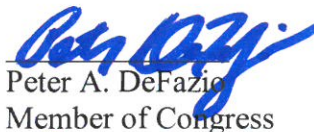
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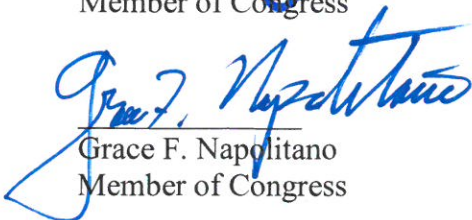
Steve Cohen  
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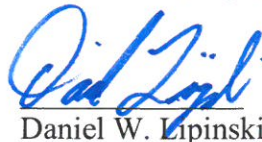
Marc Veasey  
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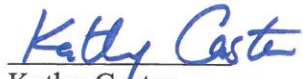
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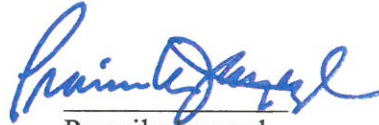



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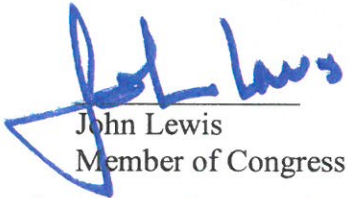
  
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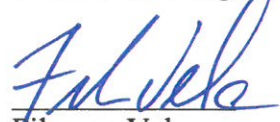
  
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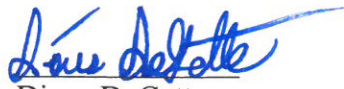
  
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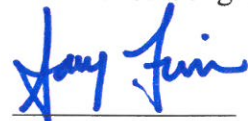
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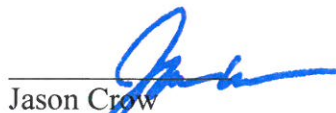
Andy Levin  
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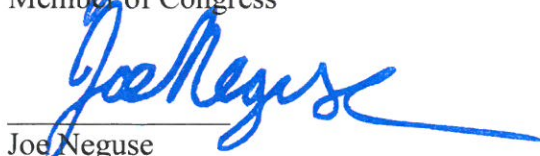
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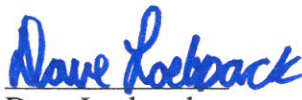
Jason Crow  
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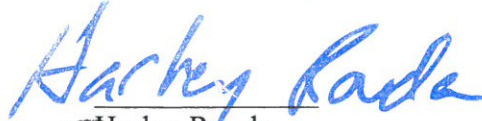
Joe Neguse  
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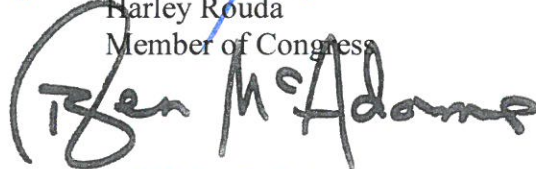
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Harley Rouda  
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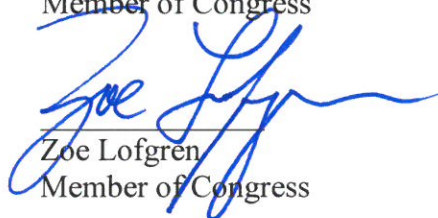
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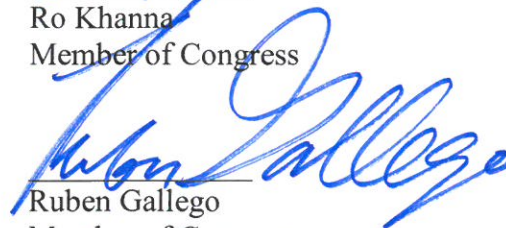
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