

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

October 24, 2007

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, and Education  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Arlen Specter  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, and Education  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable David Obey  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, and Education  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable James Walsh  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, and Education  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen Harkin and Obey and Ranking Members Specter and Walsh:

When the World Trade Center collapsed on September 11, 2001, first responders, workers and volunteers came from all around the country to aid in the enormous rescue and recovery efforts. These workers were exposed to a poisonous mixture of asbestos, dioxin, jet fuel, and scores of other toxins. Many of them are now suffering from serious, and sometimes fatal, illnesses as a result of their heroism. The World Trade Center Monitoring and Treatment Program provides monitoring and treatment for those who have become sick, but it requires significantly more funding to meet the long term needs of the thousands of workers who are ill. The program must also be opened to residents, area workers, students, and others who were also exposed to World Trade Center toxins.

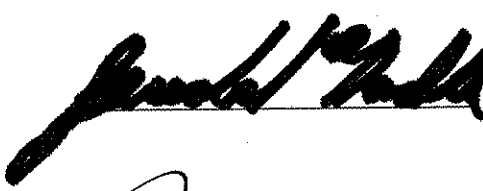

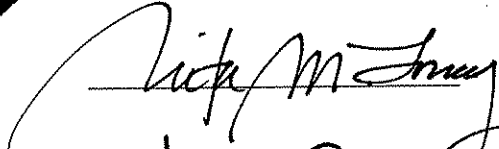

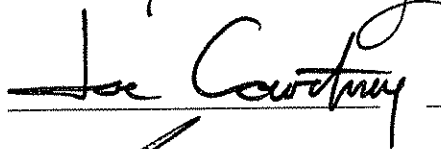
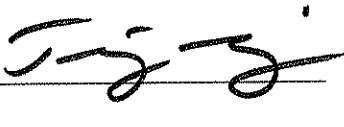

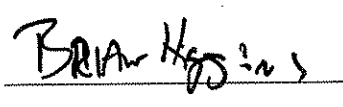
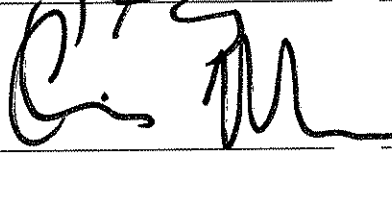
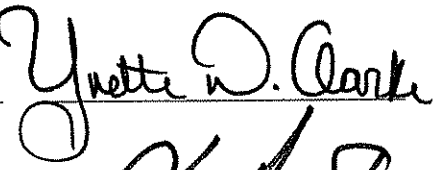

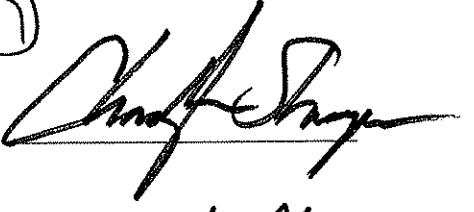

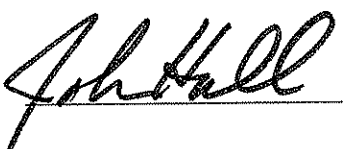
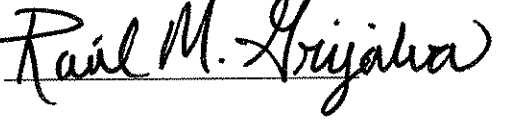

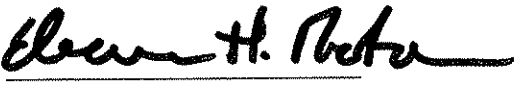
We want to thank you for including a landmark \$50 million in the House bill for 9/11 health. This is a significant step toward providing for the heroes of 9/11. As you consider the FY2008 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education appropriations bill, however, we urge you to adopt the Senate's funding level of \$55 million for the World Trade Center Monitoring and Treatment Program, appropriated to and administered by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). This program provides comprehensive medical services for illnesses that resulted from World Trade Center exposures in the rescuer and responder population. In addition, the Senate bill contains general provision statutory language that would provide screening and treatment for first response emergency services personnel, residents, students, and others related to the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. Soon after the attack, thousands of people returned to their homes, offices, and schools after the federal government said that the air was safe to breathe. Some of these people

are now becoming sick and it is the federal government's responsibility to provide for them.

In order to provide monitoring and treatment these populations experiencing 9/11-related illnesses, we urge you to provide \$55 million to NIOSH for the World Trade Center Monitoring and Treatment Program, as well as the general statutory provision language including residents, office workers, and school children, in the final FY08 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education appropriations bill, as recommended in the Senate bill.

We thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

	Carolyn B. Wray	
	Rick M. Jones	
	John Courtney	
	Amy K	
	Chris M	
	Aug Sims	
	Lois Capps	
	Paul M. Lujan	
	Eileen H. Peters	

Danny H. Davis    Eric L. Engel    Ed Burns

Joe E. Jensen    Howard L. Berman    ~~Michael R. ...~~

Ronald Murray    J. Paxton    ~~Gregory W. Meeks~~

Chris Smith    Steven A. Roth    Louise M. Slaughter

Bill Pascrell    ~~...~~    Phil L. Bindle

Ned L. King    Joseph Crowley    Bob Filner

Guy H. Adema    Kristin Gillibrand    Dennis Kucinich

Sheldon Jackson Lee    Rush Holt    Phil Hare

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Frank Pelly.

Joe Courtney

Robert E. A.

Smith

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## Members of Congress who signed the letter

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22. Rep. Carol Shea-Porter		23. Rep. Eleanor H. Norton

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45. Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee	46. Rep. Rush Holt	47. Rep. Phil Hare
48. Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen		

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49. Rep. Frank Pallone	Duplicate
50. Rep. Robert Andrews	51. Rep. George Miller
52. Rep. Charles B. Rangel	53. Rep. John B. Larson
54. Rep. Thomas Reynolds	