

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 27, 2022

The Honorable Jeff Merkley
Chair
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chellie Pingree
Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
2007 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Ranking Member
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable David Joyce
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
2007 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairs Merkley and Pingree and Ranking Members Murkowski and Joyce:

As you develop the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies appropriations bill, we write to request at least \$300 million in new funding be provided for zero-emission school buses under the Clean School Bus Program. We also ask that you include the report language below to enhance the successful deployment of zero-emission buses and robust charging infrastructure for school districts in underserved and rural communities.

The Clean School Bus Program was established as part of the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* (IIJA; P.L. 117-58). This bipartisan law included a down payment to start electrifying our nation's massive school bus fleet of roughly 480,000 vehicles and provide healthier, cleaner futures for students. However, the \$2.5 billion dedicated solely to zero-emission buses, along with the additional \$2.5 billion dedicated to zero-emission and alternative fuel buses, only scratches the surface of what is needed to transition to zero-emission buses and improve the health of the more than 20 million students who ride buses to school each day as well as surrounding communities.

To deliver the benefits of electric school buses and meet the growing demand for school bus electrification, the "Clean Commute for Kids Act" (H.R. 2721; S. 1271) calls for a ten-year, \$25 billion investment. The additional annual appropriation of at least \$300 million for FY 2023 would help bolster the Clean School Bus Program, provide an opportunity for annual engagement beyond the five years of funding provided in the IIJA, support a healthier and more productive learning environment for our nation's children, and bring the United States closer to meeting its emissions targets.

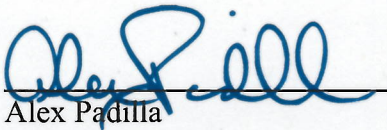
We believe it is also imperative that the Subcommittee support efforts to increase access to zero-emission buses and charging infrastructure for school districts in historically underserved and rural communities. Therefore, we ask that you include report language to encourage the

necessary outreach, collaboration, and coordination among school districts and the relevant federal agencies:

The Committee provides not less than \$300,000,000 to the Clean School Bus Program for zero-emission school bus deployment and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. The Committee directs the Agency to conduct outreach to inform, encourage, and support potential award recipients in historically disadvantaged, underserved, and rural communities regarding the availability of resources for the replacement of existing school buses with zero-emission school buses. The Agency shall collaborate with the Department of Energy and Department of Transportation to ensure funding resources for the transition to zero-emission school buses, as well as the necessary charging infrastructure, vehicle-to-grid opportunities, and workforce training programs, are deployed in parallel to optimize program outcomes.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests to ensure the Clean School Bus Program is better equipped to improve the health and safety of students, reduce harmful emissions in communities, and meet the needs of our school districts, especially those in historically underserved and rural communities.

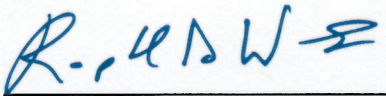
Sincerely,



Alex Padilla
United States Senator



Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress



Raphael G. Warnock
United States Senator



Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



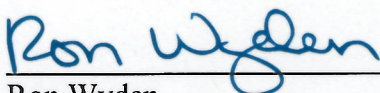
Lucy McBath
Member of Congress



Martin Heinrich
United States Senator



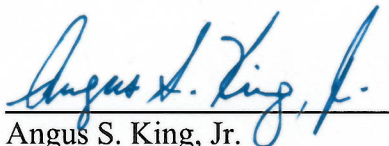
Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress



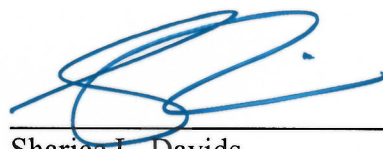
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



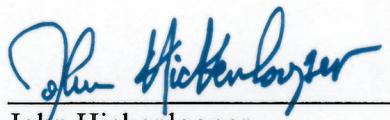
Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



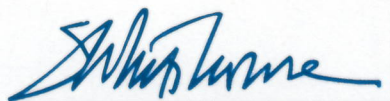
Katie Porter
Member of Congress



John Hickenlooper
United States Senator



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator




Kathy Manning
Member of Congress



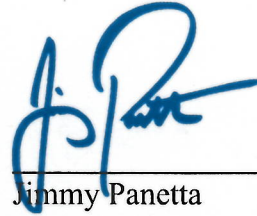
Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



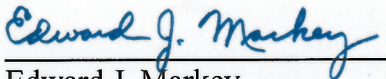
Albio Sires
Member of Congress



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



Sean Casten
Member of Congress



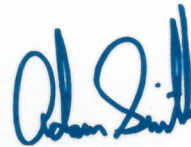
Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Tina Smith
United States Senator



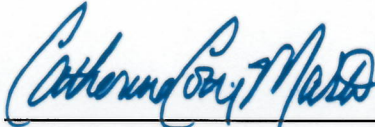
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator



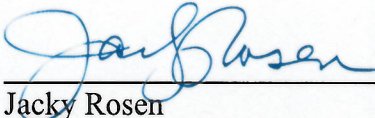
Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



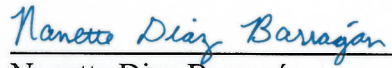
Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator



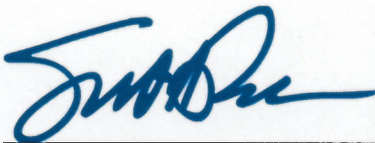
Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Jacky Rosen
United States Senator



Nanette Diaz Barragan
Member of Congress



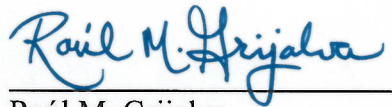
Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress



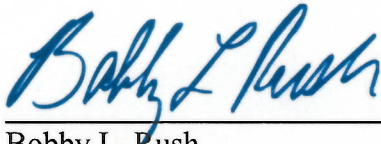
Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Michael F. Q. San Nicolas
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress



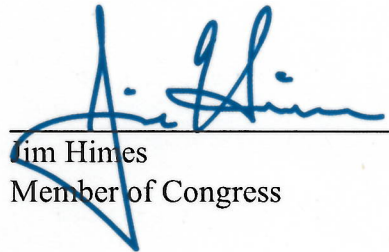
Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



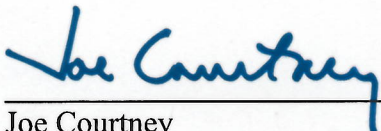
Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



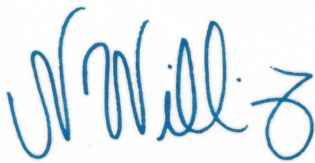
Jim Himes
Member of Congress



Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress



Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



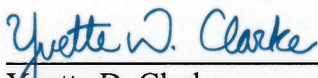
Dina Titus
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress



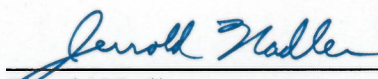
Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress



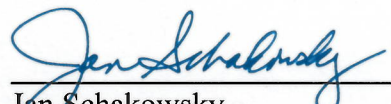
Doris Matsui
Member of Congress



Karen Bass
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



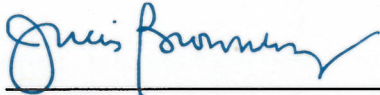
Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



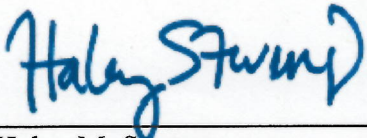
Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



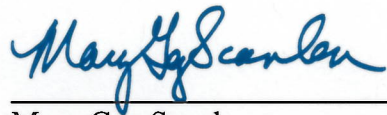
André Carson
Member of Congress



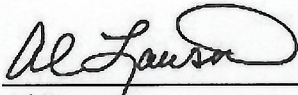
Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress




Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



Al Lawson
Member of Congress



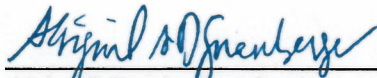
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Cori Bush
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



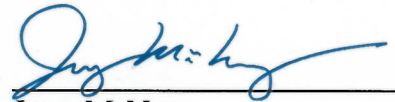
Abigail Davis Spanberger
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress



Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress



Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.
Member of Congress



Mike Levin
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Daniel T. Kildee".

Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Robert C. 'Bobby' Scott".

Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress