

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 2, 2015

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Ryan and Majority Leader McConnell:

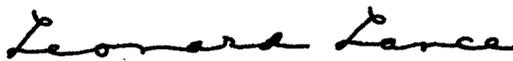
We are writing to request respectfully that you include language in a year-end spending bill requiring that the Affordable Care Act's "risk corridors" remain budget neutral for fiscal year 2016.

As you know, current law prohibits using taxpayer funds to cover losses that insurers incur as a result of Obamacare. This policy was adopted by Congress and signed into law by President Obama as part of fiscal year 2015 year-end spending measure. Under that provision, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) can no longer tap other accounts — like its overall appropriations or its Medicare funding — to fund the risk corridors program. We believe Congress should once again adopt this common sense policy to ensure that tax funds are not spent bailing out giant insurers.

The risk corridor program was intended to ease insurers' transition to Obamacare by allowing insurance companies and the federal government to share higher-than-expected costs. This has worked well in programs such as Medicare Part D where insurer gains more than offset losses. However, given the instability of the insurance market under Obamacare, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services recently announced that risk corridor payments are only expected to cover a small fraction of what insurance companies have requested, leaving taxpayers on the hook to cover the rest of the costs.

As we work to enact responsible spending legislation for fiscal year 2016, we ask that you include this important provision to ensure budget neutrality and fiscal responsibility in the risk corridor program. We look forward to working with you on this important matter.

Sincerely,



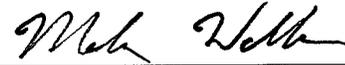
Leonard Lance
Member of Congress



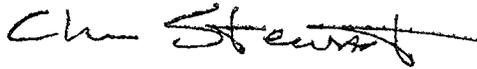
Bill Posey
Member of Congress



Marsha Blackburn
Member of Congress



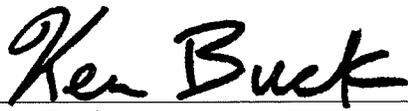
Mark Walker
Member of Congress



Chris Stewart
Member of Congress



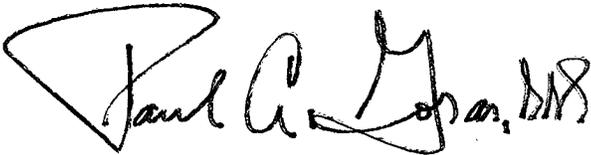
Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



Ken Buck
Member of Congress



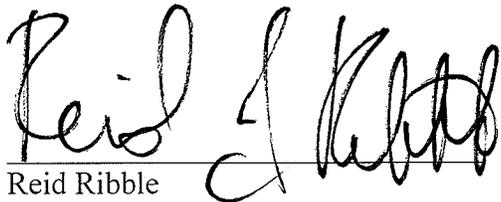
Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



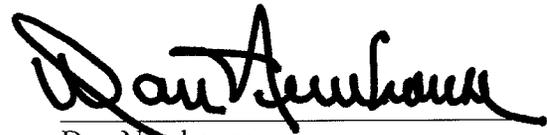
Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Andy Barr
Member of Congress



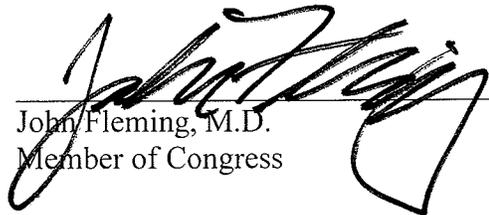
Reid Ribble
Member of Congress



Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress



Todd Rokita
Member of Congress



John Fleming, M.D.
Member of Congress



Cynthia M. Lummis
Member of Congress



Ron DeSantis
Member of Congress



Matt Salmon
Member of Congress



Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress