

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Hal Rogers, Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Matt Cartwright, Ranking
Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science,
and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Cartwright,

As you consider Fiscal Year 2024 appropriations, we ask for continued funding for drug courts and veterans treatment courts at the U.S. Department of Justice.

Treatment courts, such as drug courts and veterans treatment courts, unite public safety and public health to transform the justice system's response to addiction and mental illness by offering an evidence-based alternative to incarceration that combines accountability and treatment. Treatment courts have saved billions of tax dollars and have led more than 1.5 million people to a path of long-term recovery through programs in all 50 states and four territories.

Continued support for these programs is vitally important as the nation continues to battle the substance use disorder crisis and its devastating impacts on communities around the country. Investment in these evidence-based programs is needed to help state and local leaders increase their capacity to address this crisis.

Adult drug courts are considered the most effective and fiscally responsible response to address individuals in the justice system with substance use and mental health disorders. The U.S. Government Accountability Office reported in 2011 that drug courts reduce crime by up to 58 percent. Research also shows that about 60 percent of drug court participants complete at least 12 months of treatment, compared to only 10 percent of probationers and parolees. The most comprehensive study on drug courts to date, the U.S. Department of Justice's National Multi-Site Adult Drug Court Evaluation, concluded that drug courts provide an average cost savings of \$6,000 per participant.

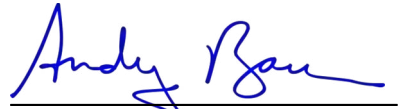
Veterans treatment courts use the highly successful drug court model to aid former members of the Armed Services who suffer from substance use disorders, mental health disorders, and trauma. Veterans treatment courts help save the lives, families, and futures of veterans by providing a highly structured program to connect them with local, state, and federal resources.

We hope you will support drug courts and veterans treatment courts in the Fiscal Year 2024 appropriation process. Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request.

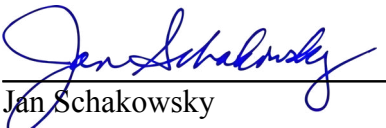
Sincerely,



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Member of Congress



Andy Barr
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



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




Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



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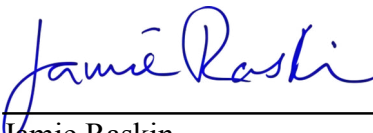
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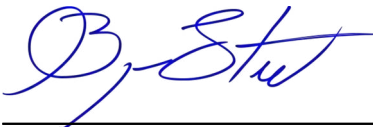
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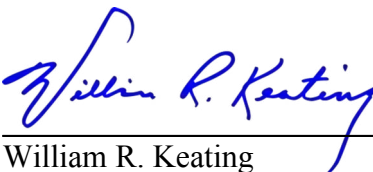
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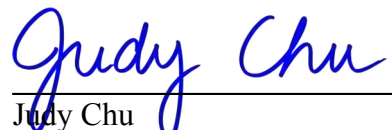
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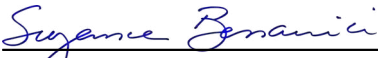
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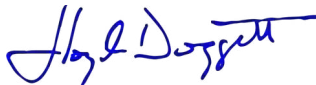
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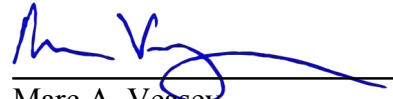
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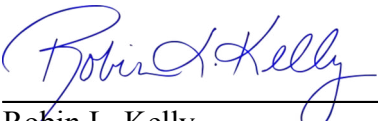
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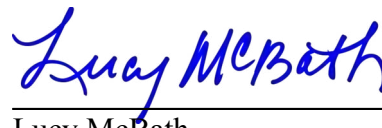
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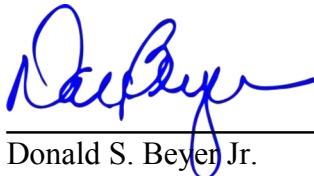
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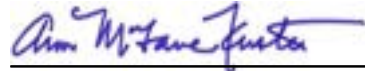
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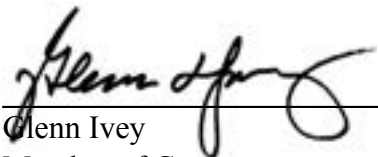
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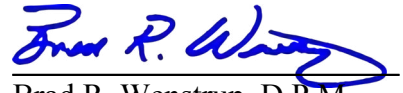
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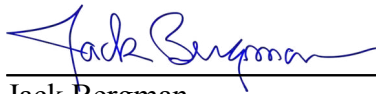
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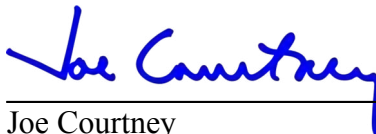
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