

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 8, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Vice Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Speaker Ryan, Leader Pelosi, Chairman Cochran, Vice Chairman Leahy, Chairman Frelinghuysen, and Ranking Member Lowey:

As you prepare the Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18) omnibus Appropriations bill, we respectfully request that you provide the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Port Security Grants Program (PSGP) funding at a level no less than \$100 million, equal to FY17 funding and the FY18 level approved by the House Appropriations Committee.

The PSGP is a vital tool and funding source that supports security needs at our nation's 361 maritime ports. Since 9/11, the PSGP has been instrumental in enabling ports and terminal operators to respond to a variety of rapidly changing threats, both cyber and physical. The Port of Los Angeles, our nation's busiest port, experiences over 20-million cyber intrusion attempts every month. The PSGP has been an essential funding source for ports to harden cyber defenses.

At a time when threats from terrorism, dangerous materials, and cybercrime continues to be great, our nation's ports cannot be forgotten.


International trade through maritime ports accounts for over a quarter of U.S. GDP. In order to compete in the international marketplace, our facilities and infrastructure needs to be maintained at the highest level with continued federal investment. We urge you to prioritize this important security tool by funding the program at a level no less than \$100 million for FY18.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



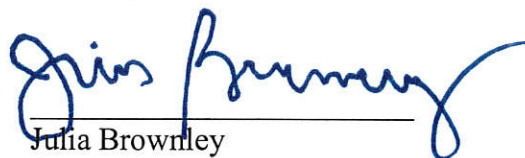
Nanette Diaz Barragan



Ted Poe



Alan S. Lowenthal



Julia Browley



Frederica S. Wilson



Norma J. Torres



Carol Shea-Porter



Chellie Pingree



Scott Peters