

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 12, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Members
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

We write to thank the Subcommittee for its past support for the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and respectfully request your support for robust funding for NARA in the Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill.

NARA is the principal, nonpartisan institution for the management and preservation of our nation's federal documents. As the keeper of our nation's history, the agency not only preserves documents but also makes governmental and military service records available to all Americans. NARA has over 40 facilities nationwide, including 32 regional archives and records centers and 14 presidential libraries. These facilities serve all Americans, among them our nation's Veterans, policymakers, and educators. NARA is also responsible for the Federal Register and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC), which promotes the preservation and publication of America's historical documents through grants and educational programs. The NHPRC has supported the publication and increased availability of numerous collections of papers of nationally significant individuals, among them George Washington and Andrew Jackson.


Over the past decade, NARA's responsibilities have increased, but its federal funding for operating expenses has remained stagnant. This funding shortfall creates barriers for everyday Americans who need to access records held by NARA. For example, our nation's Veterans often

require records held by NARA to access benefits, while genealogists use NARA records to conduct family research.

Over the last 40 years, the archival holdings of the National Archives have ballooned at an unprecedented rate—from 3 billion to 12 billion pages of paper. And the federal government’s transition to electronic records, including 600 million emails from the last three presidential administrations alone, has dramatically increased the number and complexity of records NARA manages, processes, and catalogs. As a result of years of stagnant funding, NARA has not been able to acquire and deploy the advanced digital tools necessary to keep up with the ever-increasing volume of government records received every year. This has made it challenging to meet the goal of digitizing the agency’s analog holdings—NARA has digitized only 500 million pages out of the 12 billion pages that must be processed.

Continued funding for the operating expenses of the agency is crucial to NARA’s ability to fulfill its mission of preserving, protecting, and making available our nation’s records and its history. We understand the many difficult choices the Subcommittee faces in constructing its FY 2027 budget bill. Thank you for your consideration of this request for robust funding for the National Archives.


Sincerely,




John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Dina Titus
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress



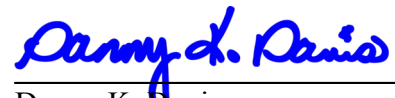
Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Greg Stanton
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



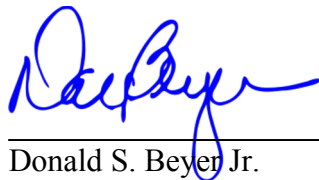
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



George Latimer
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



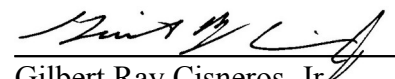
Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



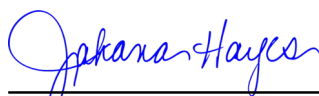
Gabe Amo
Member of Congress



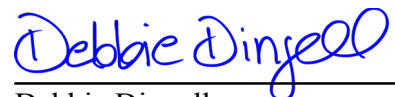
Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress



Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress



Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress



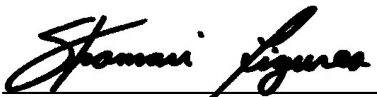
Laura Friedman
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



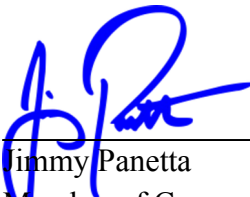
Joe Courtney
Member of Congress



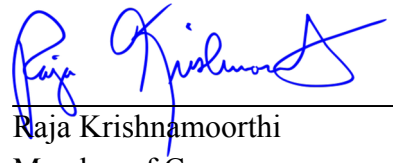
Shomari Figures
Member of Congress



Josh Gottheimer
Member of Congress



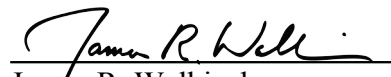
Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



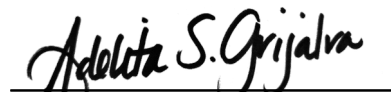
Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



James R. Walkinshaw
Member of Congress



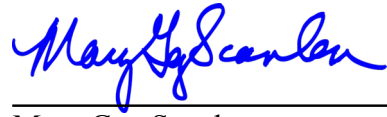
Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Adelta S. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Marc A. Veasey
Member of Congress



Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress



Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress



Kristen McDonald Rivet
Member of Congress



Andre Carson
Member of Congress



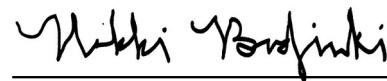
James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Lateefah Simon
Member of Congress




Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



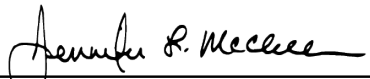
Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress



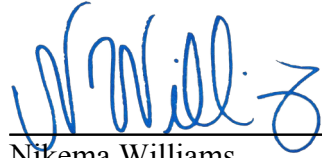
LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress



Sahas Subramanyam
Member of Congress



Jennifer L. McClellan
Member of Congress



Nikema Williams
Member of Congress



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



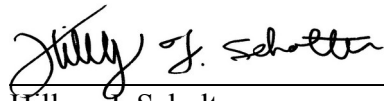
Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



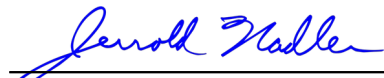
Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress



Hillary J. Scholten
Member of Congress



Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



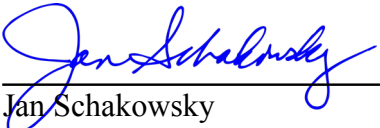
Terrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



Melanie Stansbury
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress