

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 31, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader McConnell, and Leader Schumer,

In December 2017, we wrote to House and Senate Leadership to express our significant concern over the crisis facing multiemployer pension plans across our country and the urgent need to solve this issue in a meaningful, bipartisan way. Since that time, the crisis has only worsened, resulting in more Americans, including many of our constituents, facing potential benefit cuts. The New York State Teamsters Conference Pension and Retirement Fund (Upstate NY) and Road Carriers Local 707 Pension Fund (Local 707) had their benefits slashed due to funding shortfalls in their multiemployer pension plans. The Upstate NY plan cut benefits to current retirees by 29 percent, while Local 707 retirees had their benefits slashed by more than 70 percent, reducing retiree pensions by over \$2,200 per month.

Both chambers of Congress have taken up efforts to develop a bipartisan solution. In 2018, the Joint Select Committee on Solvency of Multiemployer Pension Plans formed and held bipartisan, bicameral hearings to analyze the issue and develop a comprehensive solution. Last year, the House passed H.R. 397, the Rehabilitation for Multiemployer Pensions Act of 2019. Following action in the House, Senate Finance Committee Chairman Charles Grassley and Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee Chairman Lamar Alexander released a proposal of their own. These efforts demonstrate the bipartisan, bicameral interest in the urgent need to address the multiemployer pension crisis.

While we were heartened to see that the year-end spending agreement will ensure miner's pensions remain solvent, it is imperative that Congress acts immediately to address this growing crisis for the rest of the workforce and prevent further benefit cuts to our constituents in New York and retirees all across the country.

We urge you to prioritize this issue and pass a bipartisan, bicameral solution this year to protect hardworking Americans and retirees. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

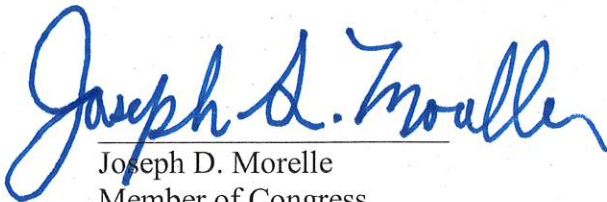
Sincerely,



John Katko
Member of Congress



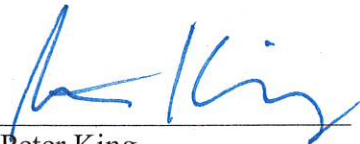
Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress



Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress



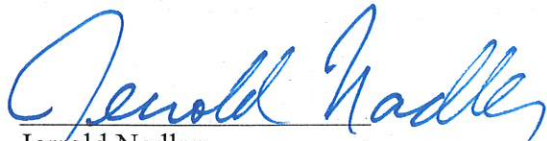
Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress



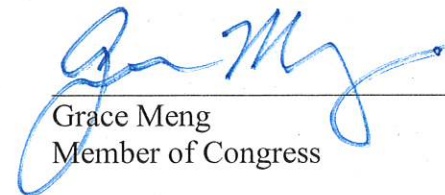
Peter King
Member of Congress



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Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Grace Meng
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Thomas R. Suozzi
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Lee Zeldin
Member of Congress

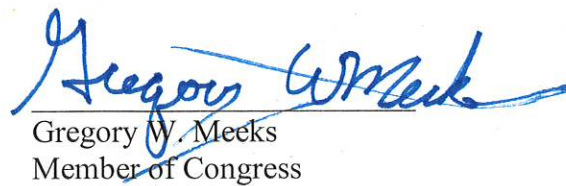


Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress



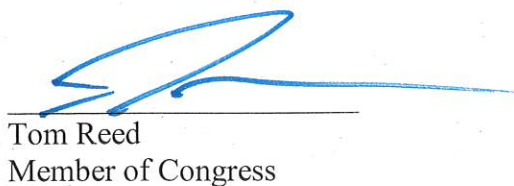
Max Rose
Member of Congress

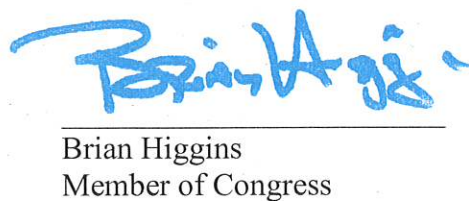

Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

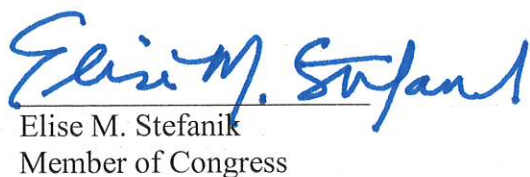

Gregory W. Meeks
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