

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 1, 2019

The Honorable Marcy Kaptur
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Energy and Water Development
2358-A Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Simpson
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Subcommittee on
Energy and Water Development
2362-B Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Kaptur and Ranking Member Simpson:

We write to express our strong support for the construction of a New Soo Lock in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan and urge you to appropriate funding consistent with the President's FY20 Budget request for \$75.3 million the FY 2020 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. Additionally, we support increased funding for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's construction account, where projects such as the Soo Locks can compete for funding.


The Soo Locks are the only waterway connection from Lake Superior to the lower Great Lakes and the Saint Lawrence Seaway, making it a critically important piece of federal infrastructure. With approximately 80 million tons of commercial commodities transiting the Locks each year, they are a single point of failure in a trillion-dollar supply chain. An unexpected outage of the 1,200- foot Poe Lock, which is now fifty years old, would have devastating economic effects not only for the Great Lakes region but for the entire nation. Our shipping, steel, and manufacturing industries rely on a healthy and vibrant Great Lakes Navigation System, which ultimately must include resiliency at the Soo Locks.


After years of failed attempts to build a second Poe- sized Lock, construction of a new lock is now a reality. For the first time, we can proudly say that funding for construction of the new lock has been included in a presidential budget request. The \$75.3 million in President Trump's FY20 request will go towards completing the upstream channel deepening construction, continuing the lock chamber design, and initiating construction on the upstream approach walls. These funds will complement the \$32 million allocated in the US Army Corps FY19 workplan. Consistent and reliable investments now can create long term cost savings and reduce potential risks to our nation's economy and national security.

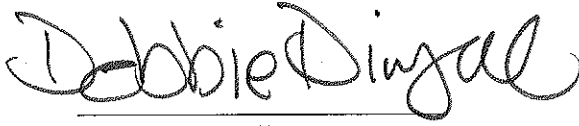
Thank you for consideration of this request, and we look forward to working with you to ensure funding for this critically important infrastructure project.


Sincerely,


Jack Bergman
Member of Congress



Paul Mitchell
Member of Congress



Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress



Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress



Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress

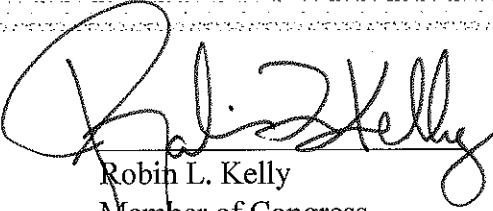

Fred Upton
Member of Congress

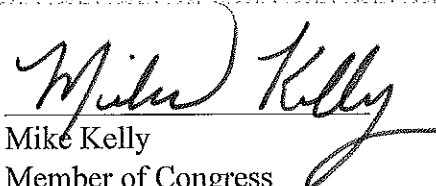

Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress

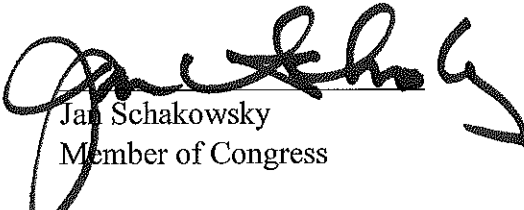

Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress



Sean Duffy
Member of Congress

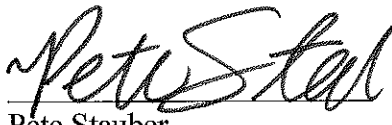

Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress


Mike Kelly
Member of Congress


Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress


Gwen Moore
Member of Congress


Pete Stauber
Member of Congress


Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



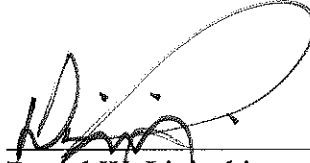
Elissa Slotkin
Member of Congress



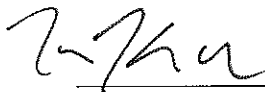
Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress



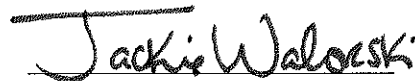
Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



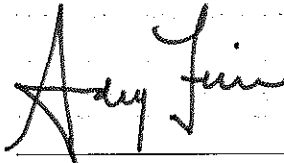
Daniel W. Lipinski
Member of Congress



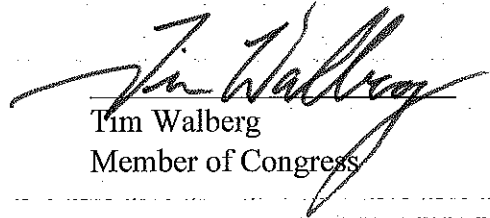
John Katko
Member of Congress



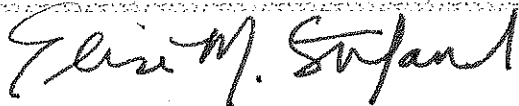
Jackie Walorski
Member of Congress



Andy Levin
Member of Congress



Tim Walberg
Member of Congress



Elise Stefanik
Member of Congress



Bradley S. Schneider
Member of Congress



Anthony Gonzalez
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress



Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress

Conor Lamb

Conor Lamb
Member of Congress