



Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 4, 2013

Hon. John S. Pistole
Administrator
Transportation Security Administration
East Tower, Floor 11, TSA-5
601 South 12th Street
Arlington, VA 20598

Dear Administrator Pistole:

We are writing to express our serious concern over the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) current timeline for implementation of a one-visit policy for the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) and urge that the timeline be shortened to provide timely relief to workers, as Congress intended in the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2012.

As you know, Section 709 of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2012 (P.L. 112-213) directed TSA, within 270 days, to reform the process for TWIC enrollment, activation, issuance, and renewals to require no more than one in-person visit to an enrollment center. Congress gave TSA 270 days to implement this provision. TSA has recently indicated that reforms are underway but that full implementation of the one-trip requirement would not occur until the third quarter of 2014—an entire year late. When we passed Section 709, we did so with the full knowledge that it set forth an ambitious deadline and would demand swift action. However, the timeline established by TSA is far longer than what Congress envisioned.

Section 709, as enacted, is the product of close consultation with TSA during House-Senate conference discussions. At the time, TSA indicated that these reforms would be achievable in a 270-day window. Even before those discussions commenced, TSA was well aware that the two-visit requirement was viewed by many of us in Congress as an unnecessary burden for American workers. For these reasons, we would strongly advise you to revisit the projected timeline for full implementation to bring about timely, meaningful relief to thousands of transportation workers across the nation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please respond by June 14, 2013, regarding this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Candice S. Miller".

Rep. Candice S. Miller

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bennie Thompson".

Rep. Bennie Thompson

C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger
Rep. C.A. Dutch Ruppertsberger

Brian Higgs
Rep. Brian Higgins

Sanford D. Bishop Jr.
Rep. Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.

Steve Scalise
Rep. Steve Scalise

Loretta Sanchez
Rep. Loretta Sanchez

Janice Hahn
Rep. Janice Hahn

Nick Rahall
Rep. Nick Rahall

Walter B. Jones
Rep. Walter B. Jones

Tony Cárdenas
Rep. Tony Cárdenas

Patrick Meehan
Rep. Patrick Meehan

Michael H. Michaud
Rep. Mike Michaud

John Conyers
Rep. John Conyers

Rick Larsen
Rep. Rick Larsen

Jim McDermott
Rep. Jim McDermott

Betty McCollum
Rep. Betty McCollum

Frank LoBiondo
Rep. Frank LoBiondo

Michael H. Grimm
Rep. Michael Grimm

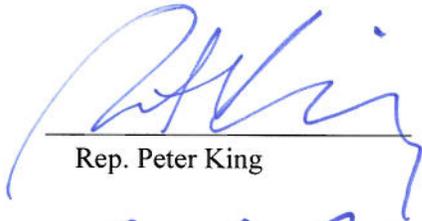
Mike Rogers - AL
Rep. Mike Rogers (AL)

Blaine Luetkemeyer
Rep. Blaine Luetkemeyer

C.W. Boustany Jr.
Rep. Charles Boustany

Stephen Fincher
Rep. Stephen Fincher

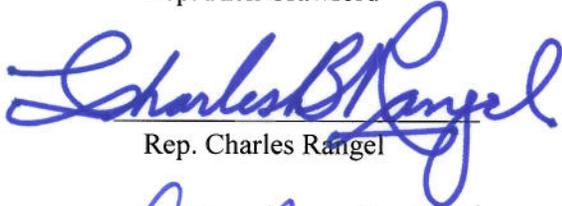
Tulsi Gabbard
Rep. Tulsi Gabbard



Rep. Peter King



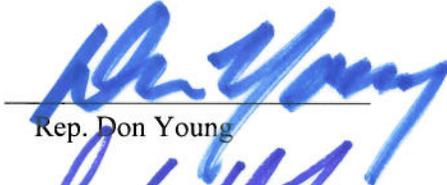
Rep. Rick Crawford



Rep. Charles Rangel



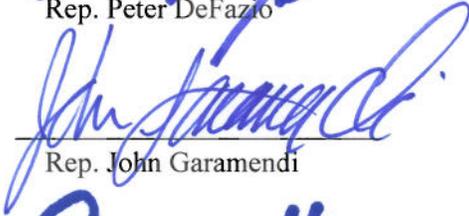
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Rep. Don Young



Rep. Peter DeFazio



Rep. John Garamendi



Rep. Gregg Harper



Rep. Beto O'Rourke



Rep. Adam Smith



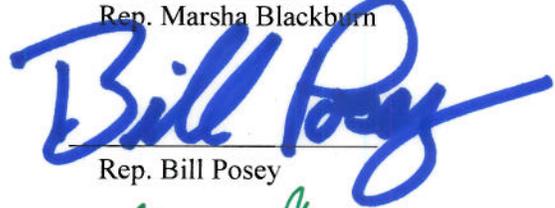
Rep. Bill Cassidy



Rep. Alan Nunnelee



Rep. Marsha Blackburn



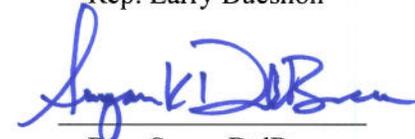
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Rep. Gene Green



Rep. Larry Bucshon



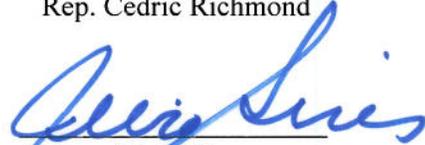
Rep. Suzan DelBene



Rep. Sheila Jackson Lee



Rep. Cedric Richmond



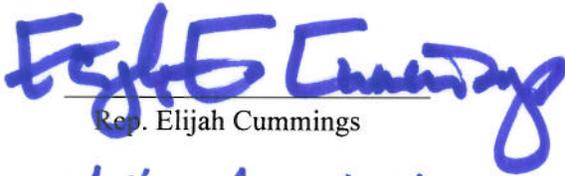
Rep. Albio Sires



Rep. Bill Johnson



Rep. Howard Coble



Rep. Elijah Cummings



Rep. Gwen Moore



Rep. Matthew Cartwright