

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 25, 2022

Brian P. Monahan, MD, MACP
Office of the Attending Physician
H-166, U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Dr. Monahan,

We write to you today to express our concern about the continued closure of the House side of the U.S. Capitol building to the American public despite the fact that major sporting and entertainment gatherings are occurring regularly around the country and companies across the nation are open for business. As you may be aware, the Senate side of the U.S. Capitol building recently announced it will be reopening to tours on a limited basis but the House Sergeant At Arms has yet to adopt a similar policy.

The Capitol closure order, issued by the House Sergeant At Arms on March 12, 2020¹, cited guidance from your office and Congressional leadership as the justification for issuing the order. Since that time, Congressional leadership has repeatedly stated it defers to you on questions of COVID-19 workplace safety policies, including a recent statement made by Committee on House Administration Chair Zoe Lofgren to the Washington Post². The last Social Distancing Guidelines document (V6.1) issued by your office was dated July 27, 2021³ and Chair Lofgren noted that discussions with your office have not been recently active.

Given these facts, we respectfully request you immediately issue up-to-date Social Distancing Guidelines to Congressional leaders and consider modifying your recommendation on the closure of the U.S. Capitol as part of that guidance. We also ask that you clarify whether your office has issued the same guidelines regarding the resumption of public tours to both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Congress is accountable to the American people, and the American people have a Constitutional right to be heard, to see their democracy in action, and to petition their leaders for redress of grievances. Unfortunately, Congress has lagged far behind the rest of America in reopening. Now more than ever, we must be proactive in building public trust and getting back to work.

We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter of national importance.

¹<https://cha.house.gov/sites/democrats.cha.house.gov/files/documents/Limited%20Access%20to%20the%20Capitol%20Complex.pdf>

²https://www.washingtonpost.com/powerpost/capitol-reopening/2021/12/03/dea2a440-5470-11ec-9267-17ae3bde2f26_story.html

³https://attendingphysician.house.gov/sites/attendingphysician.house.gov/files/wysiwyg_uploaded/Social%20Distancing%20Guidelines%20V6.1.pdf

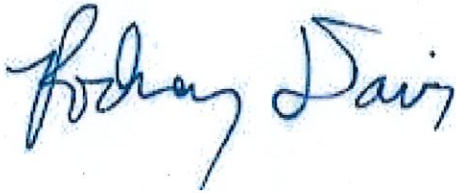
Sincerely,



Mike Kelly
Member of Congress



Robert E. Latta
Member of Congress



Rodney Davis
Member of Congress



Ken Buck
Member of Congress



Ted Budd
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress



Andrew R. Garbarino
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Troy E. Nehls
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Barry Loudermilk
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Kevin Hern
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Darrell Issa
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Member of Congress



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Jaime Herrera Beutler
Member of Congress



Byron Donalds
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Tom McClintock
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Member of Congress



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Member of Congress



Diana Harshbarger
Member of Congress



Bob Good
Member of Congress



Scott Franklin
Member of Congress



Beth Van Duyne
Member of Congress



Warren Davidson
Member of Congress



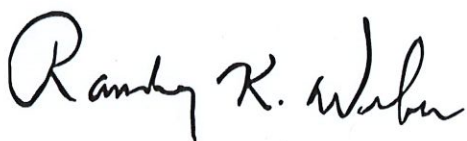
Robert J. Wittman
Member of Congress



Ronny L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Greg Pence
Member of Congress



Randy K. Weber
Member of Congress



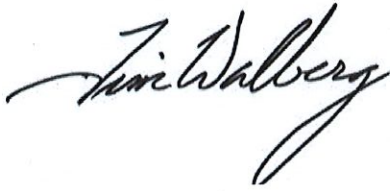
Mark Amodei
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Carol D. Miller
Member of Congress



Tom Cole
Member of Congress



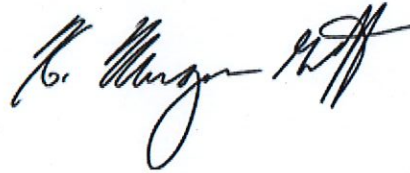
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Brian Babin, D.D.S.
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Tim Burchett
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Ken Calvert
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Robert B. Aderholt
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David P. Joyce
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Alex X. Mooney
Member of Congress



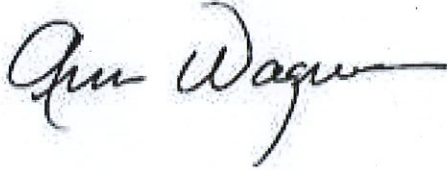
Burgess Owens
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A. Drew Ferguson, IV
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Mike Garcia
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Andy Barr
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Troy Balderson
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Bryan Steil
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Matthew Rosendale, Sr.
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Earl L. 'Buddy' Carter

Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress

Bill Johnson

Bill Johnson
Member of Congress

Bill Huizenga

Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress