

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

September 22, 2010

Lisa P. Jackson
Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Bldg., 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Jackson:

As members of the bipartisan Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, the largest and most active caucus on Capitol Hill, we are writing to urge you to dismiss the petition to ban the use of lead in fishing products. The attached letter from leading hunting, fishing and conservation organizations clearly points out that there is no scientific basis to warrant such a far reaching ban on traditional fishing equipment. A similar proposal to ban lead fishing tackle was dismissed by the EPA in the mid-1990s, because there was insufficient data to support such a ban - there is no additional data to support a ban today.

The American wildlife management model is the best in the world, and one of the pillars of this model is that the states retain the authority to manage most of their fish and wildlife. These state agencies are already monitoring and addressing any of the localized issues surrounding lead, making this draconian ban not only unnecessary, but intrusive. In a letter to you on this very issue dated September 2nd, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, which represents the collective perspectives of the 50 state fish and wildlife agencies, concludes, "A national ban on lead fishing sinkers is therefore neither necessary nor appropriate."

The President's "America's Great Outdoors" initiative is aimed at reconnecting Americans to the outdoors; fishing is an accessible, fun, family oriented activity that should be embraced and encouraged as part of this initiative. A ban on traditional fishing tackle will drive up costs substantially and serve as a disincentive for more Americans to get outside and enjoy this great pastime.

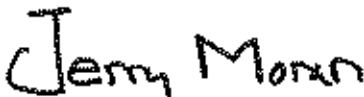
There are 60 million recreational anglers in America that contribute \$125 billion to our economy annually. Penalizing these men, women and children that are the best stewards of our environment, as well as the financial backbone to fish and wildlife conservation in our country, would be a terrible and unnecessary injustice.

We urge you to deny the petition to ban the use of lead in fishing products.

Sincerely,



Rep. Dan Boren



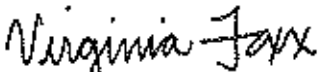
Rep. Jerry Moran



Rep. John Boozman



Rep. Donald A. Manzullo




Rep. Virginia Foxx



Rep. Christopher P. Carney



Rep. Marsha Blackburn



Rep. Michael T. McCaul



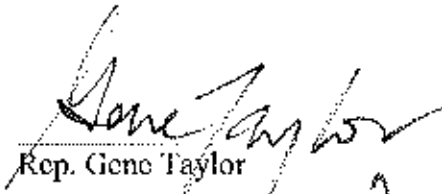
Rep. Paul Ryan



Rep. Jo Bonner



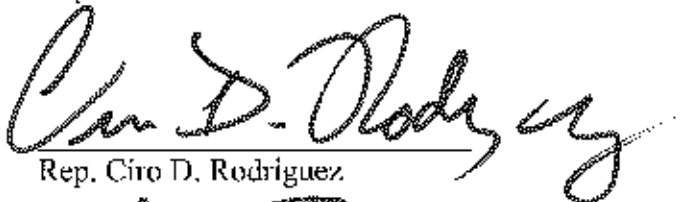
Rep. Michael K. Simpson



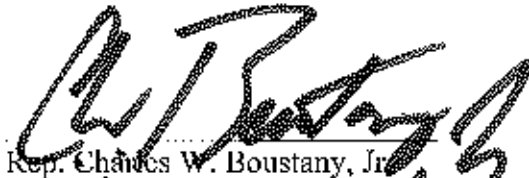
Rep. Gene Taylor



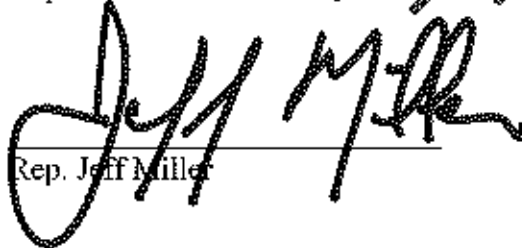
Rep. Charles A. Wilson



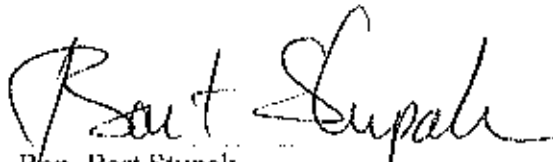
Rep. Ciró D. Rodríguez



Rep. Charles W. Boustany, Jr.




Rep. Jeff Miller



Rep. Bart Stupak

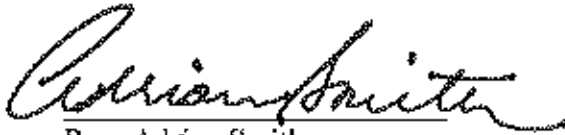

Rep. Howard Coble



Rep. Fred Upton


Rep. Mike Pence

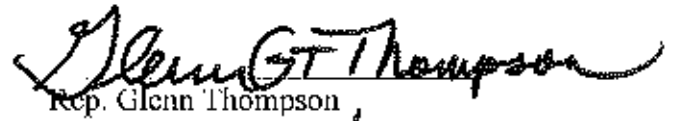

Rep. Steve Scalise


Rep. Harold Rogers

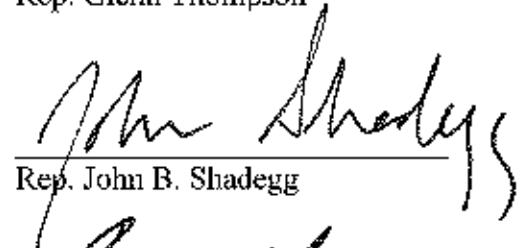

Rep. Adrian Smith


Rep. Robert E. Latta


Rep. Solomon P. Ortiz


Rep. Glenn Thompson

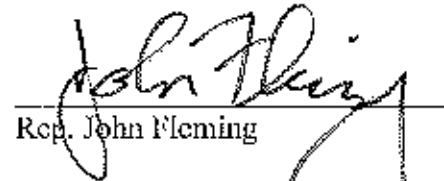

Rep. Steve Austria


Rep. John B. Shadegg

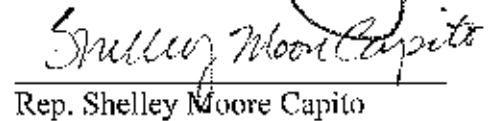

Rep. Sue Wilkins Myrick



Rep. Ed Whitfield


Rep. John A. Boehner

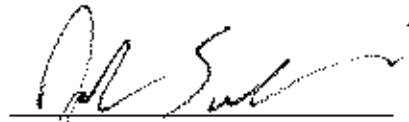

Rep. John Fleming


Rep. Duncan Hunter

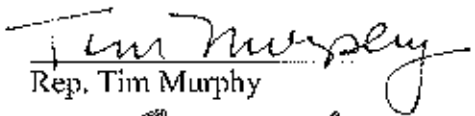

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Rep. Dean Heller


Rep. Kathleen A. Dahlke


Rep. John Sullivan


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Rep. Tim Murphy


Rep. Roy Blunt


Rep. Don Young

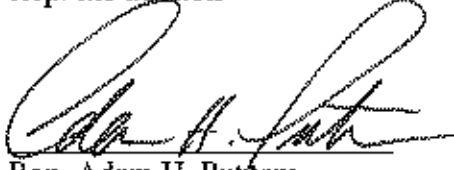

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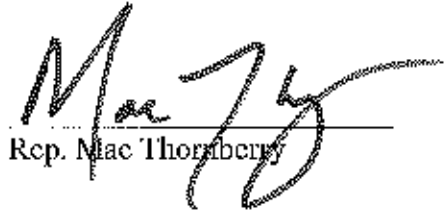

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Rep. Steven C. LaTourette

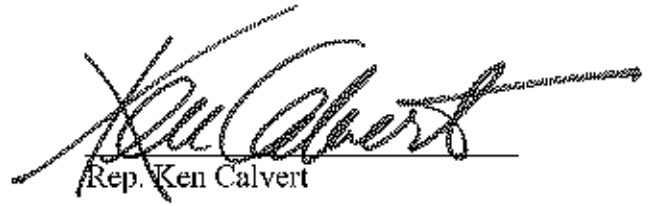

Rep. Robert B. Aderholt


Rep. Mac Thornberry

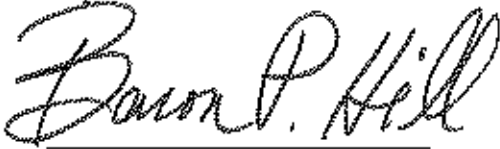

Rep. Walter B. Jones



Rep. Jason Chaffetz



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Rep. Baron P. Hill



Rep. Mike McIntyre



Rep. Robert J. Wittman



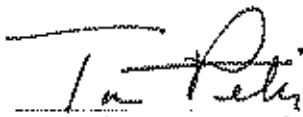
Rep. Spencer Bachus



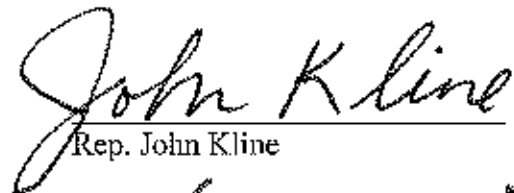
Rep. Michele Bachmann



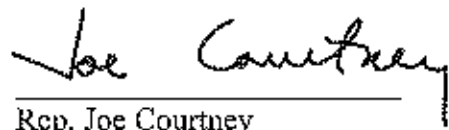
Rep. Peter A. DeLuazio



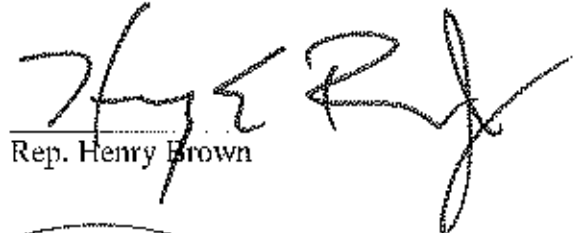
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Rep. John Kline



Rep. Joe Courtney



Rep. Henry Brown



Rep. Paul C. Broun, M.D.



Rep. Patrick J. Tiberi



Rep. David P. Roe



Rep. Barney Frank




Rep. Dale E. Kildee




Rep. Jeff Fortenberry


Rep. Lynn Jenkins

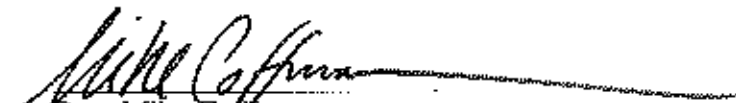

Rep. K. Michael Conaway


Rep. Cynthia Lummis


Rep. Erik Paulsen


Rep. Tom Graves


Rep. Bob Goodlatte


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