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The Honorable Tom Malinowski
United States House of Representatives
426 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Malinowski,

On behalf of the Entomological Society of America (ESA), I write to extend my congratulations on your election to serve as an esteemed member of the U.S. Congress.

As you embark on leading our nation into the future, consider that many of the grand challenges we face nationally and globally are in fact driven by some of our smallest fellow inhabitants on Earth: insects. More than half of all species on our planet are insects and related arthropods, with 1.5-2 million species alone already known to science, and they play vital roles in the daily lives of all Americans. Whether your constituents are concerned about putting food on the table, avoiding diseases spread by pests, or even bolstering STEM education, insects play an outsized role. That is where we come in.

ESA is the largest organization in the world serving the professional and scientific needs of entomologists and individuals in related disciplines. Founded in 1889, ESA has over 7,000 members affiliated with educational institutions, health agencies, private industry, and government. Members are researchers, teachers, extension service personnel, administrators, marketing representatives, technicians, consultants, students, agricultural advisors, pest management professionals, and hobbyists.

Our entomologists' areas of expertise cut across many topics including public health, national security, and agriculture. Some that may be addressed in the 116th Congress include, but are not limited to:

- Implementation of the Farm Bill
- Impacts of climate change
- Insects that transmit diseases
- Sustainable agriculture and alternative protein sources
- Pest management strategies
- Invasive arthropod species.

We hope that you will think of ESA as a resource as you and your staff seek to understand these complex and nuanced issues. ESA welcomes the opportunity to provide scientific consultation to your office or any other that may require entomological expertise to devise or assess policy. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can be of assistance.

Thank you for your attention and best wishes as you start this honorable position serving the nation.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. K. D. Peterson', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Robert K. D. Peterson, Ph.D.
2019 President, Entomological Society of America