

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 14, 2011

Robert A. Niblock
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer
Lowe's Companies, Inc.
1000 Lowe's Boulevard
 Mooresville, NC 28117-8520

Dear Mr. Niblock:

We are writing with great concern over your recent decision to cancel your advertising on TLC's *All-American Muslim*, a television show which follows the daily lives of five Lebanese American Muslim families in Dearborn, Michigan. This reality show takes place in one of the largest Muslim communities in the United States. This action flies in the face of your company's charitable work and positive presence in communities nationwide.

We are dismayed that your decision was influenced by an online petition from the Florida Family Association, a group that has advocated discrimination and bigotry in the past. This group alleges that *All-American Muslim* "is propaganda that hides the Islamic agenda's clear and present danger to American liberties and traditional values." This dangerously false view of American Muslims has no place in our society, and by pulling your advertising, you are tacitly agreeing that this absurd notion deserves credence. It does not.

In your statement explaining why you decided to pull your advertising you claimed that this was a "hotly contested debate." Quite frankly, there is absolutely no contested debate about the contribution of Muslim-Americans to American society. Yes, we face threats from radical Islamic extremists, but the millions of patriotic, peace-loving Muslims living and working in America are our best defense against them, and only strengthen the fabric of our nation. Instead, today they face the same bigoted notions that previously have been directed against African-Americans, Japanese-Americans, Irish-Americans, Italian-Americans, Jewish-Americans, Catholic-Americans, and others.

Further, your actions give credibility to the view that we accept discrimination towards Muslims as a nation, which harms our national security by feeding recruitment efforts by extremist Islamic organizations. In fact, Denis McDonough, President Obama's Deputy National Security Adviser, recently noted that Al Qaida's core recruiting argument is that the West is at war with Islam. A chief goal of our national security policy is to undermine this contention. We fear that public actions like the one taken by your company this week, if not quickly corrected, may buttress this false argument.

We implore you to reconsider your decision and live up to your corporate ideals of diversity and inclusion and the values of tolerance and acceptance that create the foundation of our nation.

Sincerely,



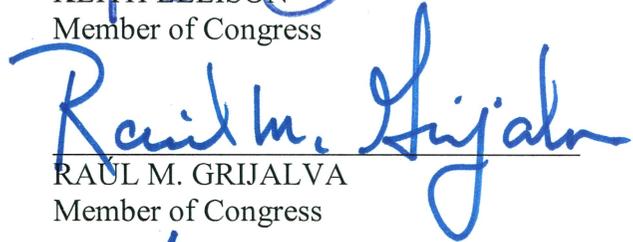
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Member of Congress



KEITH ELLISON
Member of Congress



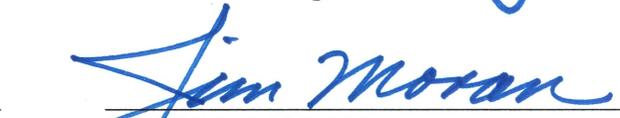
HANSEN CLARKE
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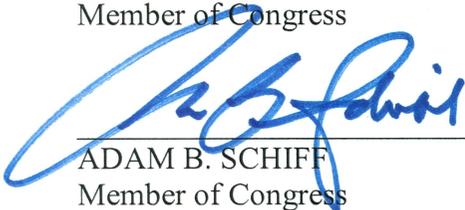
DONNA F. EDWARDS
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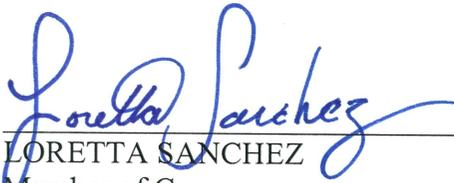
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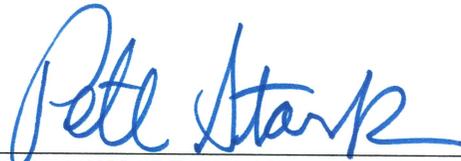
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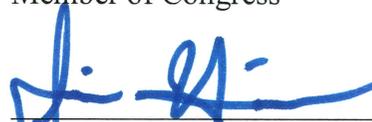
JOHN B. LARSON
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Member of Congress



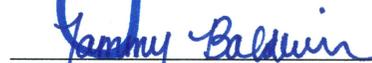
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