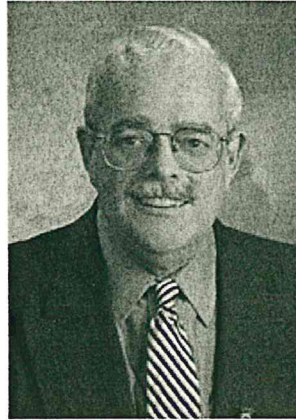




GERALD E. CONNOLLY
WASHINGTON, D.C.



August 11, 2018

Dear Friends,

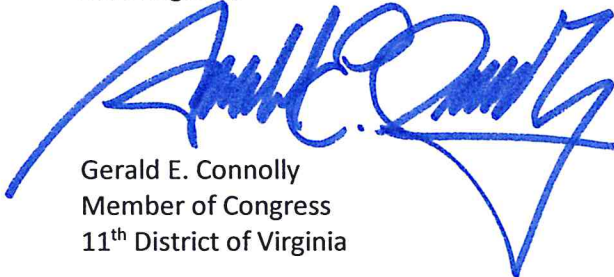
It is my great privilege to welcome you to the 2018 Institute for Corean-American Studies (ICAS) Summer Symposium: The Korean Diaspora – Challenges and Issues Facing the Korean-American Community (KAC).

This year marks the 115th anniversary of Koreans' immigration to the United States. The Commonwealth of Virginia is home to more than 300,000 Korean-Americans. Nearly one in three of our neighbors in the 11th Congressional District is from another country. Half of our foreign-born population emigrated from Asia, and more than 80,000 of our neighbors speak an Asian language at home.

Korean immigrants and their descendants are a valuable part of our social and economic community. We honor those who have faced the challenges of transitioning to a new country and found success in their adopted country. In Northern Virginia, we understand that diversity is a strength and that the high quality of life we enjoy is rooted in that diversity.

Again, welcome to the 2018 ICAS Summer Symposium. Please accept my best wishes for continued growth and success.

Best Regards,



Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress
11th District of Virginia