

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
H-307 Capitol Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

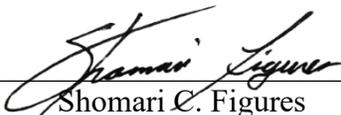
Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Gulf Coast Maritime Institute Equipment & Public Safety Equipment/Technology Workforce Initiative in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Bishop State Community College, located at 351 North Broad Street Mobile, Alabama 36603. The funding would be used to expand workforce training and modernize equipment at Bishop State Community College to support the region's maritime and public safety sectors. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it builds on Mobile's shipbuilding and defense manufacturing strengths, addresses critical workforce shortages, and provides residents with job-ready skills and career pathways that strengthen national security and economic growth along the Gulf Coast.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Shomari C. Figures
Member of Congress