

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

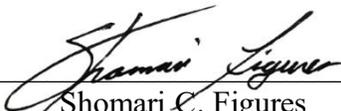
Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Research and Incubation Center: Expanding Agricultural, Water, and Energy Research for Alabama's Future in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Tuskegee University, located at 1200 W Montgomery Rd, Tuskegee, Alabama, 36088. The funding would be used for the restoration and modernization of Wilcox Hall at Tuskegee University to establish a Research and Incubation Center dedicated to advancing agricultural, water, and energy technologies. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it leverages Tuskegee University's legacy of agricultural innovation to support farmers, agribusinesses, and rural communities across Alabama's Black Belt. By advancing research, sustainable technologies, and entrepreneurship, it will grow agribusiness opportunities, boost productivity, create quality jobs, and strengthen the region's economic vitality.

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