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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2403

May 1, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

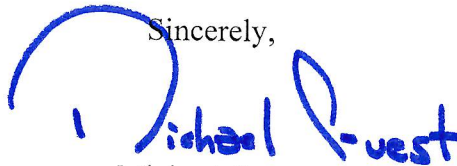
I am requesting funding for the Covington County Emergency Operations Center project in Collins, Mississippi, in Fiscal Year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Covington County Emergency Management Agency located at 502 S. Arrington Avenue, P.O. Box 848, Collins, Mississippi, 39428. The funding would provide for a new emergency management center in Southeast Mississippi. Covington County hosts most of the petroleum pipelines and bulk fuel storage facilities in Mississippi and in the Southeastern United States. Covington County also has two major highways spanning it, Highway 49 and 84, exposing Covington County to major hazardous materials threats. Covington County is also threatened by natural disasters such as severe weather, tornadoes, flooding, and hurricane impacts. This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because an Emergency Operations Center would promote public safety by serving the citizens, first responders, and industry of Covington County, and it would benefit the State of Mississippi as a forward-operating Emergency Operations Center for natural and man-made disasters.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 614 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196c), as amended by section 202 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (9/11 Act).

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

Thank you for your consideration of this request. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Michael Guest
Member of Congress

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