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

May 23, 2025

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:

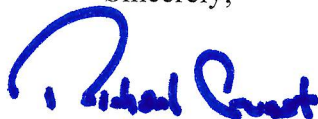
I am requesting funding for the Mississippi State University Raspet Flight Laboratory Expansion project in Starkville, Mississippi, in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Mississippi State University (MSU) located at 301 Research Boulevard, Mississippi State, Mississippi, 39762. The funding would expand MSU's Raspet Flight Research Laboratory (RFRL), which is an academic leader in unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) research and innovation. RFRL works with government and industry partners and helps grow aviation companies and innovative technologies. The work of the RFRL engages two of the Mississippi Development Authority's strategic plan target industries: aerospace and advanced manufacturing. The project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because this facility expansion would increase the capacity for the RFRL to service industry and government partners and to be utilized as an economic driver toward the state's strategic development of the aerospace and advanced manufacturing industries. RFRL's leadership and expertise in UAS applications help generate economic growth in Mississippi.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1).

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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