

CHARLES J. "CHUCK" FLEISCHMANN
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April 28, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
House Appropriations Subcommittee
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
H-310, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
House Appropriations Subcommittee
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Kennedy Outpatient Center in fiscal year 2022. The entity to receive funding for this project is Erlanger Health System, located at 975 E 3rd St. Chattanooga, TN 37403. The funding would be used to support an 11,000 SF build out of a pediatric MRI, three procedural rooms and a post anesthesia care unit at the outpatient center. Over 40% of Kennedy's pediatric patients are Medicaid, CHIP and uninsured. These services are in shortage and critically needed in the greater Chattanooga Region. Using inpatient procedure suites and adult MRI systems is medically inappropriate, inconvenient, unnecessarily costly and results in delayed care. There is an economy of scale to having both the MRI and outpatient surgical facilities in the same area, functioning together, as this allows the same pre- and post-procedure staff to safely serve the volume of children who would be coming through both areas on a daily basis.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Chuck Fleischmann

Member of Congress