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3RD DISTRICT, TENNESSEE

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March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Committee  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington DC, 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
1036 Longworth HOB  
Washington DC, 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting \$500,000 for the MiCA Simulation Laboratory: Advancing Healthcare Education in Chattanooga in FY 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is The Morehouse School of Medicine and CommonSpirit Memorial Hospital, located at 2525 Desales Ave, Chattanooga, TN 37404. The funding would be used to enhance medical education at CommonSpirit – Memorial Hospital by implementing simulation-based training (SBT). MiCA would purchase a variety of simulation tools including virtual reality devices, an advanced interdisciplinary patient simulator, a maternal birthing torso simulator, an advanced multipurpose simulator, hospital beds, IV training kits, prehospital and nursing care simulators, and associated supplies. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because these modern training tools will make incredible strides to improving the health provider shortages throughout Tennessee and the Southeast. By increasing the qualified health workforce, MiCA also aims to improve health outcomes, reduce health disparities, and increase individuals' confidence in healthcare throughout the region.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 272 of title 15, United States Code.

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

Sincerely,

Congressman Chuck Fleischmann  
Member of Congress