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May 15, 2025

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 \$2,500,000 for Tennessee Wesleyan University's (TWU) Enhancement of Health Science and STEM Education. The entity to receive funding is TWU located at Fisher Hall of Science, 204 E, College Street, Athens, Tennessee 37303. To prepare students to meet the expanding demands of the workforce throughout the region as scientists, health care professionals, educators, and business leaders, Tennessee Wesleyan University (TWU) seeks \$2,500,000 in Community Project Funding for a significant renovation of the Fisher Hall of Science. It was built and equipped in the 1960's and houses laboratories and classroom/research space for biology, chemistry, physiology, anatomy, physics, and environmental science. Renovations within Fisher Hall are essential to ensure that state-of-the-art facilities are available to recruit, retain, and graduate students that are desperately needed for the East Tennessee workforce. The proposed renovations would enhance the mechanical systems in the labs and classrooms and upgrade the instructional technology and furnishings. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because these much-needed renovations and enhancements will provide the infrastructure that will prepare students to meet the expanding demands of the workforce in East Tennessee.

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,

Chuck Fleischmann
Member of Congress