VERONICA ESCOBAR 16th District, Texas

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES SUBCOMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE



## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

May 23, 2025

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

Dear Chair Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member House Committee on Appropriations 1036 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

I am requesting funding for the Regional Food Production and Food Business Development Center project in fiscal year 2026.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Texas A&M AgriLife Research located at 1380 A&M Circle, El Paso, TX 79927. The funding would be used to acquire and upgrade a location to serve as a food production facility, a small business development and training hub as well as a food science research center.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because a food production & food business development center will provide support to local food entrepreneurs interested in learning the technical and business acumen necessary to build a successful food business, while increasing access to healthy and affordable regional foods. The center will also generate good paying jobs in the commercial food production and food science research domains.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C.5305 (a)(1) and (a)(2).

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

Sincerely,

Veronica Escobar Member of Congress

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