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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Travis County's Peer Support Programming for Opioid Use Disorder Recovery Project in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Travis County, located at 700 Lavaca Street, 5th Floor, Austin, Texas 78701.

The funding would be used to fund Peer Support Specialists in local hospital emergency departments to engage with people presenting at the hospital with opioid use disorder, connect them to medication assisted treatment and other recovery supports, and follow-up with beneficiaries to assist them in navigating support options in the community. The proposal also funds Peer Support Specialists in Travis County's courts to engage with people involved in the child welfare system due to opioid use disorder and connect them to medication assisted treatment, recovery supports, and assist them in navigating support options in the community. Continuing the success of this program is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it assists individuals during acute moments of crisis to help them begin a recovery path toward addressing their opioid use disorder.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

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

Sincerely,

Lloyd Doggett