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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing
and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing
and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Center for Digital Innovation and Entrepreneurship at Austin Community College project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Austin Community College District (ACC), located at 6101 Highland Campus Dr., Austin, TX 78752.

The funding would be used by ACC to equip the Center for Digital Innovation and Entrepreneurship with advanced digital infrastructure, including digital twin platforms, entrepreneurship and innovation tools, and living intelligence technologies. Using this targeted investment, ACC will leverage its facilities, faculty expertise, and strong partnerships with regional employers to create Central Texas' premier community college-based venture incubator. This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will open pathways for students from all backgrounds to be leaders in the innovation economy, produce skilled workers who bridge the gap between AI research and application, strengthen local commerce through innovation and small business creation, and position ACC as a leading research partner for the local biotech industry.

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

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

Sincerely,

Lloyd Doggett