



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

May 2, 2025

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 Central Texas Health Information Exchange Maternal Health Research in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Connexus, located at 1401 Lavaca St. PMB 40115, Austin, TX 78701.

This funding would be used to support research that studies the impact of federal policies to improve access to maternal health services in health professional shortage areas by academic researchers. The funding will help build the necessary enhancements to improve the quality and completeness of data for such policy-relevant studies as well as test cutting-edge data analytic technologies like machine learning and large language models to allow the research to be optimized. This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because conducting rigorous population health research will provide advancements for Central Texas by identifying the needs and methods to improve the health and well-being of taxpayers while also decreasing government spending on health and social issues that otherwise might cost the state of Texas millions of dollars. This research can also be scaled as cutting-edge findings that can be utilized through the United States

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is aligned with 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,

Lloyd Doggett