



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

March 18, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-307, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the UCF Puerto Rico Research Hub Building Upgrades project in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is University of Central Florida, located at 4000 Central Florida Boulevard, Orlando, FL 32816. The funding would be used for reconstruction of the Barbara Ying Center, including upgrades to electrical and HVAC systems promoting energy efficiency. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it is a reconstruction project benefitting the public.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Darren Soto".

Darren Soto  
Member of Congress