



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

March 31, 2023

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the North Scott Community Regional Innovation Center in Fiscal Year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the North Scott Community School District located at 251 E Iowa Street, Eldridge, IA 52748.

The funding would be used to help fund the Regional Innovation Center - which is part of the North Scott Vision 2025 initiative. The Center will be a \$19.5M, state-of-the-art facility, built in Eldridge, Iowa through a partnership between the district and Eastern Iowa Community College (EICC). Career & technical education (CTE) programs housed in the facility will be available to all high school students in the region. The new Regional Innovation Center will allow the school district to bring in more students from surrounding school districts, expand its pathway offerings to include entirely new programs, offer capstone courses for existing programs, and better meet the needs of industry through advanced, real-world training as outlined by local and regional advisory councils. Current pathways the district will expand include carpentry, electrical, plumbing, and certified nursing assistant. Planned new pathways that connect to postsecondary certifications or careers include: animal care, culinary arts, emergency medical technician, entrepreneurship & marketing, diesel mechanics/ag engineering technology, food science & nutrition, turf & landscape, and veterinary technician assistant.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because workforce training through collaborative education is a way of promoting local economic growth. The Regional Innovation Center benefits industry partners in that it offers a variety of opportunities to students and creates a pipeline of well-trained, knowledgeable future employees.

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mariannette Miller-Meeks".

Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.

Member of Congress