



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

March 19, 2026

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

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Technology Maturation and Workforce Development for Space Science project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Iowa, located in Iowa City, IA.

The funding for this project will be used for expanding the University of Iowa's capacity through a new investment that will support NASA's future lunar and observatory goals while simultaneously addressing the regional demand for a skilled aerospace workforce. This project aims to enhance the university's unique, hands-on educational model, ensuring that students continue to gain critical, real-world experience in designing and operating space-flight hardware.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because centralizing the resources allocated to technology development and workforce training in a state-funded, public educational entity maximizes access to Iowans and supports the next generation of space scientists. The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized under Section 20102 of title 51, United States Code.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family have any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mariannette J. Miller-Meeks".

Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.
Member of Congress