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

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT  
(VICE RANKING MEMBER)  
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE,  
AND TECHNOLOGY  
RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chair, Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the University of Akron Polymer Research, Development, & Production Facility in Fiscal Year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Akron, whose offices are located at 302 E. Buchtel Ave, Akron, OH 44325. The location of this project is 170 University Circle, Akron, OH 44325. The University of Akron would use this funding to establish a manufacturing incubator for new materials and house a polymerization scale-up laboratory, product prototyping laboratory, wet-chemistry lab, space for testing and characterization of polymer and advanced materials. This funding is a good use of taxpayer funds because it will help create 1,200 jobs in the city of Akron and help accelerate Akron's robust polymer industry, which contributes billions to the region's tax base annually. This project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S. Code Section 5305(a)(2).

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

Sincerely,



Emilia Strong Sykes  
Member of Congress