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

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE
(VICE RANKING MEMBER)

WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT
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COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE,
AND TECHNOLOGY

INVESTIGATIONS AND OVERSIGHT
(RANKING MEMBER)

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

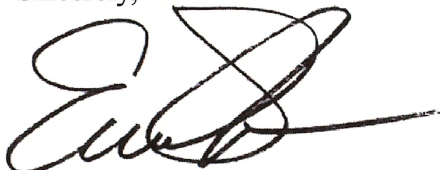
I am requesting \$6,000,000 in funding for the Project DEPOT project in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Development Finance Authority of Summit County located at 1 Cascade Plaza Suite 1700, Akron, Ohio 44308. The funding would be used to support phased development designed to create a hub for training and workforce development located in Barberton Ohio. The first critical phase of which is opening the Midwest Defense Training Center.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will establish a centralized, industry aligned Workforce Training Campus (WTC) that will help address regional and national talent gaps and support the creation of high-wage high-demand metal and polymer manufacturing jobs.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and 5305(a)(5).

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

Sincerely,



Emilia Sykes
Member of Congress