

THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.
7TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY
LEBANON BOROUGH DISTRICT OFFICE
100 CORPORATE DRIVE, SUITE 106
LEBANON, NJ 08833
(908) 547- 3307



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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, MANUFACTURING AND
TRADE

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTHERN
AFRICA
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, 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 Bridgewater Cold Food Storage & Food Locker Implementation Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Bridgewater Township, located at 100 Commons Way, Bridgewater, NJ 08807.

The funding would be used for a two-pronged project designed to increase food bank donation capacity and provide targeted intervention in low-access areas through the rental and maintenance of one cold storage unit and the purchase and maintenance of one food locker unit. Bridgewater Township will work alongside the Food Bank Network of Somerset County to carry out project activities. After the purchase, installation, testing, and training of staff is complete, the cold storage and food locker units will be utilized by the partner food pantries to better accept and distribute donations—specifically to low-access areas with transportation barriers to food pantry access. The cold storage will open up a new intake avenue, as the units will provide the capacity required to accept bulk donations from local farms, pantries, and grocery retailers. This food will benefit thousands of food insecure individuals in Somerset County. This project is designed to support the efforts of vital non-profit organizations on the frontline in the fight against food insecurity and will result in the improved delivery of lifechanging aid.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will create a centralized, scalable, and sustainable cold storage food distribution hub and to launch a 24/7 pick-up food locker in food-insecure areas with access needs. These objectives will result in increased intake of food donations and increased food access in regions with transportation barriers.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. H. K., Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tom Kean, Jr.
Member of Congress