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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY
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COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTHERN
AFRICA
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA

March 19, 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 Chester Highlands Ridge Building Roof Replacement in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Chester Township, located at 1 Parker Road, Chester, NJ 07930.

The funding would be used for the replacement of the Highlands Ridge Building, a vital multi-agency hub housing the Chester Volunteer First Aid Squad, contracted Atlantic Health EMT services, the Chester Township Office of Emergency Management, the NJ Highlands Council, and NJ Department of Environmental Protection offices. It also serves as a regional food pantry and the primary location of the Chester Historical Society.

This project will replace the building's 22,000 square foot flat roof which is failing in multiple locations to halt active water infiltration and preserve this essential community asset.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the restoration of the Highlands Ridge Building will preserve the safety, health, and heritage of the community. By replacing the 22,000-square-foot roof, the project ensures the continuity of five essential organizations under one roof and safeguards the essential services that keep the community safe, fed, and informed.

This project has a federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

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 "Tom Kean, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tom Kean, Jr.
Member of Congress