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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4313

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SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON
THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

HOUSE REPUBLICAN WHIP TEAM

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for MSU STEM Enhancement Initiative, Wichita Falls, TX in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Midwestern State University, located at 3410 Taft Blvd Wichita Falls, Texas 76308. The funding will be used to enhance the computational research and laboratory facilities within Bolin Science Hall by upgrading the information technology infrastructure and connecting it to the following:

1. Forensic workstations for training students to analyze and react to cybersecurity threats;
2. A computing cluster to allow students and faculty to engage in big data analytics for issues in cybersecurity and engineering; and
3. Collaborative computing laboratories to facilitate team-based learning for engineering and computer science projects and innovation.

As the university continues to develop and train engineering and computer science students towards careers with local and regional industry partners in the Wichita Falls community, these upgrades to equipment and resources allow students to gain real-world STEM experience.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because with this congressional support, MSU Texas has the opportunity to improve STEM teaching and learning in the McCoy College of Science, Mathematics, and Engineering as the university prepares graduates to fill the high-skill STEM workforce needs of local and regional industry partners in the Wichita Falls community. Midwestern State University maintains strong partnerships with regional and local employers in aerospace, transportation, agricultural aviation, power generation, manufacturing and engineering. Students from MSU Texas programs support regional employers as interns and provide a critical workforce for positions requiring strong engineering and computational knowledge. They also serve as a potential workforce pool for future employers to draw from in

the region's information technology, manufacturing, and engineering sectors. The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 272 of title 15, United States Code. 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 that reads "Ronny Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ronny L. Jackson
Member of Congress