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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-0605

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger Chairwoman House Committee on Appropriations H-305, The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member House Committee on Appropriations 1036 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Lemon Grove Early Childhood Education Center Design in Fiscal Year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Lemon Grove School District, located at 8025 Lincoln Street, Lemon Grove, CA 91945. The funding would be used to provide facilities needed to support transitional kindergarten expansion. The Early Childhood Education Center will be designed to meet the specific learning needs of 3-5-year-old children, and will include 16 classrooms, playgrounds, outdoor learning centers, gardens, library, multi-purpose center, administrative offices, drop-off/pick-up loading, parking lot, accessibility upgrades, storm sewer improvements, site preparation, and utility work.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because many families in the Lemon Grove community cannot afford preschool education and often forego this part of their child's development and education. U.S. Census shows nearly one in five children in the city of Lemon Grove (16.2%) is living below poverty – exceeding averages for the San Diego region, for California, and for the U.S. The Early Childhood Education Center will be a welcome resource for families in a socioeconomically disadvantaged community.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

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

Sincerely,

Member of Congress