

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2404

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman, Committee on
Appropriations
The U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the New Medical Clinic project in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Forrest General Hospital located at 6051 U S Highway 49, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, 39401-7200. The funding would be used for constructing a new medical clinic in Poplarville, Mississippi near the existing Pearl River County Hospital to provide primary care and behavioral health services to the community, including pediatric health care services. Forrest General Hospital participates in several population health payment models, specifically Medicare payment models that hold them accountable financially for managing a population's health care quality and costs through a means of consistent primary care services and visits.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it would stabilize and increase the health care (primary care, behavioral health care, and pediatric care) to a rural community. The project would also help attract and retain physicians and providers to the community. Just as importantly, this project would integrate with the hospital services provided in the community as well with the Level II hospital (Forrest General Hospital) 35 miles away.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes based on the definition of "rural" set forth in 7 CFR 3570.53.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family. Thank you for your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,


Mike Ezell
Member of Congress