

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Committee on Armed Services

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 1, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman Committee on Appropriations H-307, The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations 1036 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Gates County, NC Community Center project in fiscal year 2025.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Gates County Government, located at:

Gates County Community Center 9 Merchant Drive Gatesville, NC 27938

Gates County senior citizens and families have limited public facility options for community events, a gathering place for visiting with neighbors, attending health education classes and clinics, exercise or to serve congregate meals. Agriculture production and timber harvesting represent vast areas of farmland and sparsely populated areas, leaving many residents especially the elderly feeling isolated. Citizens aged 65 and above reflect twenty-three percent (22.9%) of the County's 10,247 residents and services for seniors are quite limited and in great demand, since there is no local Council on Aging and Senior Center available. The existing community center was constructed in the 1970s, is not well maintained, and is in very poor condition having served in a limited capacity as a senior center, plus exercise facility for families and children. This project is a good use of federal funds because it would serve an economically distressed, rural county and replace the existing facility.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

I Dona Dawisse. GOV -Member of Congress GREENVILLE 1710 E. ARLINGTON BOULEVARD SUITE A GREENVILLE, NC 27858 PHONE: (252) 999-7600

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