



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4302

March 18, 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.

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting \$300,000 in funding for the Big Brothers Big Sisters Lone Star-Greater Houston Mentorship Program in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Big Brothers Big Sisters Lone Star, located at 1003 Washington Ave Houston, Texas 77002. The funding would be used to provide one-to-one mentorships between successful community members and at-risk youth. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) collaborates with various local stakeholders, including schools, law enforcement agencies, businesses, and community organizations, to engage mentors and mentees and build meaningful connections within the community. BBBS's programs promote good civic behavior in vulnerable children, ultimately reducing youth incarceration and truancy, while boosting school performance, and providing stability for children who often lack it at home.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized under section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

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 "Troy E. Nehls".

Troy E. Nehls
Member of Congress