



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

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 \$5 million in funding for the Texas CoastWISE (Watershed Integrity, Stewardship, and Engagement) Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, located at 600 John Kimbrough Blvd, Suite 509, College Station, Texas, 77843. The funding would be used to identify priority watersheds and guide the strategic application of conservation funding through programs like the NRCS National Water Quality Initiative. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will deliver lasting environmental, economic, and community benefits while leveraging existing federal programs and partnerships. By helping coastal communities reduce pollution, improve flood resilience, and implement watershed protection plans, the program safeguards critical industries like fishing, tourism, and agriculture, which directly support jobs and economic activity in the district.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.).

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