

# Congress of the United States

## Washington, DC 20515

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

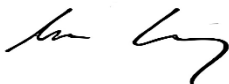
I am requesting funding for the UC Merced Experimental Smart Farm Project - Phase 1 in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of California, Merced, located at 5200 N. Lake Road, Merced, CA, 95343.

The funding would be used to install modular buildings for operations and research, construct modular facilities to support community outreach including a covered pavilion and amphitheater, construct essential utilities and design, project management and compliance. This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the new facility will support the development of UC Merced as a global leader in precision agriculture and provide a space for the students to learn cutting edge agricultural practices that they will be able to deploy in the Central Valley's farm economy, which is essential to feeding Americans across the country.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for the purposes authorized by 23 USC 133.

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

Sincerely,



Adam Gray  
Member of Congress