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COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & COMMERCE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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March 13, 2026

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

The Honorable Rose 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 Challenger Learning Center of Tallahassee Simulator Upgrade in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Florida State University, located at 601 W College Ave, Tallahassee, FL 32306.

The funding would be used to upgrade the Challenger Learning Center of Tallahassee's current simulator. For this project, Challenger Center will adjust the base simulator design to fit the dimensions of the rooms at Challenger Learning Center of Tallahassee. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because Investing in the Challenger Learning Center in Tallahassee is important because it inspires the next generation of scientists, engineers, and innovators through hands-on STEM education. As the K-12 outreach facility of the FAMU-FSU College of Engineering, it plays a critical role in engaging students across North Florida—especially those from underserved and rural communities—with high-quality science experiences. Federal investment helps expand access to these opportunities, strengthens the STEM talent pipeline, and supports regional economic development by preparing students for high-demand, high-skill jobs.

This project has a federal nexus because it is for the purposes described in section 20102 of title 51, United States Code.

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

Sincerely,



Neal Dunn
Member of Congress