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SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWER  
AND PROJECTION FORCES

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4204

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for improvements to a CAH in Pikeville, TN in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for the project is Erlanger Bledsoe Hospital located at 71 Wheelertown Ave, Pikeville, TN 37367. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because of the critical health services the community hospital is providing in Pikeville. The hospital provides 24/7 emergency services for the area, family primary care, a cardiac rehabilitation program, and a 25-bed inpatient unit, and weekly cardiology services.

Erlanger Bledsoe Hospital is a unique community hospital with current emergency department capacity for 6 patients. The waiting area is very small with limited staff visibility, a safety issue for both patients and staff. The renovation would enable equipment and supplies to be more accessible to staff and permanent structures added to help protect staff from infectious disease and improve privacy. The renovation would likely include a decontamination area to also better protect the staff and patients. Additional facility improvements would be considered based on funding made available.

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

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "SD", enclosed in a blue oval.

Scott DesJarlais