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UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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CO-CHAIR EMERITUS
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SENIOR DEMOCRATIC WHIP

April 28, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

I am requesting funding for the St. Catherine University's Advancing Scientific Excellence Initiative in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is located at:

St. Catherine University
Derham Hall, Room 1
2004 Randolph Ave, #4286
Saint Paul, MN 55105

The funding would be used for:

St. Catherine University's Advancing Scientific Excellence Initiative seeks to deliver premier education and training in the sciences to women undergraduate students, including a large and increasing number of minority women, at St. Catherine s (a.k.a. St. Kate s) through critical technology upgrades to Mendel Hall. Named after the father of modern genetics, Gregor Mendel, St. Kate s built Mendel Hall in 1927 to offer women access to scientific education and thusly became one of few places for women to study biology, chemistry, physics, and psychology in the decade that followed. Almost a century later, the facility, which consists of 22 labs and hands-on learning spaces, an observatory, and 825 square-feet of greenhouse, is sorely in need of upgrades. The funds requested for this ready-to-go project would provide technology and equipment that will vastly enhance student learning and research experiences in STEM fields. These include biology instrumentation and equipment (including PCR machines, microcentrifuges, and a microtome) necessary for preparing samples for high-tech molecular and genetic analyses, equipment and technology upgrades for the state-of-the-art Biotechnology and Materials & Environmental Chemistry suites (including an Automated Chromatography System and a Raman Spectrometer for enabling controlled purification and identification of chemical compounds and species), and physics equipment (such as Atomic Spectrometers and Zeeman

Effect apparatus for studying electromagnetic fields) that will enrich students hands-on learning in laboratories.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Betty McCollum
Member of Congress