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UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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CO-CHAIR EMERITUS
CONGRESSIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN CAUCUS

March 19, 2026

Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Pre-Apprenticeship within Correctional Facilities in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Finishing Trades Institute of the Upper Midwest, located at 3205 Country Drive, STE 150, Little Canada, Minnesota 55117. The funding would be used to expand pre-apprenticeship programming for justice-impacted individuals within correctional facilities. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will reduce recidivism, strengthen workforce participation, and support long-term recovery and reentry success.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

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 that reads "Betty McCollum".

Betty McCollum
Member of Congress