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& INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

May 1, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman Committee on Appropriations H-307, U.S. Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations 1036 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Merced County Streams Project in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The funding would be used for evaluating solutions for flood control in the Black Rascal watershed with the goal of increasing the Merced urban area's level of protection from a 50-year to a 200-year flood event. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it is assigned to reduce flood risk in and around Merced.

The project has a Federal nexus because it is authorized by section 1201(5) of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act of 2016.

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

John S. Duarte Member of Congress