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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

DEMOCRATIC POLICY AND
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
CO-CHAIR

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
RANKING MEMBER OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MIDDLE EAST, NORTH AFRICA, AND CENTRAL ASIA

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
VICE RANKING MEMBER

PROBLEM SOLVERS CAUCUS

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Hennepin County Emergency Shelter Program project in fiscal year 2024.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Hennepin County, located at Hennepin County Government Center, 300 South 6th St, Minneapolis, MN 55487.

The funding would be used to meet a critical need for housing designed specifically to help unsheltered single adults and people in emergency shelter. It will be built on three vacant lots at the corner of 28th and provide: capacity for 54 individuals with overflow; a shelter sleeping layout with six-person rooms versus a large, congregate, traditional shelter structure; safe space that does not feel like incarceration to clients; a sustainable facility built with durable materials designed to stay in good condition; and 48 units of flexible housing (Single Room Occupancy, studios, one bedrooms, and an innovative shared suite). All the housing will be supported with on-site case management and other services. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it would help address evictions that are at a high and rising; transition people from growing encampments that pose weather and numerous safety and health concerns; increase much-needed emergency shelter capacity; and, develop a shelter designed to fit the current and future needs of the people Hennepin County serves.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S. Code section 5305(a)(2).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Phillips', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dean Phillips
Member of Congress