Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-1503

March 31, 2023

Chairwoman Kay Granger House Appropriations Committee H-307 The Capitol Washington, DC 20515 Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro House Appropriations Committee 1036 Longworth HOB Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting that the Appropriations Committee provide a funding level of \$2,000,000 for the Des Moines Community College Transportation Institute. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC), located at 2006 S Ankeny Blvd, Ankeny, IA 50023. The funding will redevelop DMACC's Transportation Institute's facility and concourse, which are currently posing potential health and safety issues. The current program cannot continue to function without making the appropriate changes soon. The current plans include demolishing the current building and rebuilding, removing the concrete from the ranges and repaving the area, expanding from the current three ranges to six ranges, and upgrading site drainage and grading improvements. These much-needed improvements would allow additional space to be able to increase enrollment and third-party testing services, which ultimately assists to bridge the gap between skilled truck drivers and workforce needs in the state of Iowa. Trained truck drivers are in extremely high demand in central Iowa, with statewide projected job openings at 6,190 per year. This is a good use of taxpayer money because the U.S. relies on the trucking industry to deliver goods safely. Producing qualified drivers with enhanced operator safety training helps ensure that the economy can operate in an efficient manner while keeping roads and highways safe for all travelers.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program: 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(4).

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

Sincerely,

Zach Nunn

Member of Congress