

ERIN HOUCHIN
9TH DISTRICT, INDIANA

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
COMMITTEE ON RULES
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1409

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March 26, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
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 Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

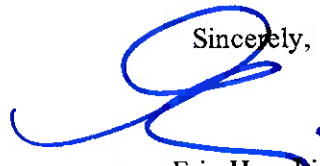
I am requesting funding for the Switzerland County Technology and Education Center (TEC) Rural Innovation Center in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Switzerland County Economic Development Commission, located at 212 W Main St, Vevay, Indiana 47043. The funding would be used for capital improvements to the Switzerland County TEC. Improvements include construction of a commercial teaching kitchen with commercial-grade hood, fire suppression, and code-compliant finishes; build-out of a coworking space including HVAC, mechanical, and networking infrastructure; space modifications to support manufacturing and technology uses; security and access control infrastructure throughout the facility; and mechanical and acoustic upgrades to support training and meeting uses throughout the facility.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it expands that facility to full capacity as a Rural Innovation Center, putting skills training and business development resources within reach of rural Hoosiers who currently have none. The Switzerland County Technology and Education Center (TEC) has already proven responsible use of prior public investment — it earned an IEDC Gold Award and built an active Purdue University partnership serving a county of fewer than 10,000 residents.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2) and 5305(a)(4).

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

Sincerely,



Erin Houchin
Member of Congress
Indiana's 9th Congressional District