DAVID ROUZER
7TH DISTRICT, NORTH CAROLINA

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

May 3, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I request funding for the University of North Carolina at Wilmington's (UNCW) Mid-Atlantic Flood Mitigation and Coast Resilience Program project in Fiscal Year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, located at 601 College Road, Wilmington, NC 28403. Funding would establish a program at UNCW's Center for Marine Science focused on flood mitigation, prevention, and coastal resilience.

The project appropriately uses taxpayer funds because flooding has become a major concern for many coastal communities, and this program will act as a repository for data to help predict and mitigate flood impacts along the Eastern Seaboard. It will also develop models to predict flood impacts, work with local communities on flood preparation, coordinate workshops and public information events in the Mid-Atlantic, and work with the private and public sectors to develop innovative technologies and approaches to mitigating flood impacts and enhancing coastal resilience. The residual impacts of flooding and coastal storms cost the Federal government billions of dollars in taxpayer funds over the years. Investing in a program to mitigate the impacts of these natural storms will result in cost savings for the federal government in the future.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.).

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

Sincerely,

David Rouzer

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