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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
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REGIONAL WHIP, NEW YORK STATE

CO-CHAIR, NORTHERN BORDER CAUCUS

March 19, 2026

Chairman Tom Cole
2207 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro
2413 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the University at Buffalo in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding is The Research Foundation for the State University of New York, located at 520 Lee Entrance Ste 211, Amherst, NY, 14228. The funding would be used for the UB AI-Enabled Drug Discovery Infrastructure for Cancer and Addiction project to deploy advanced AI pipelines within the CANDO multiscale therapeutic discovery platform.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it addresses two of the nation's most urgent public health crises: non-small cell lung cancer, the leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States, and opioid use disorder, which continues to devastate communities across the country. By integrating AI with high-performance computing and experimental validation, the project will dramatically reduce the time and cost of drug discovery and establish a shared national infrastructure accessible to researchers and collaborators across the country.

The investment will strengthen New York's leadership in AI-enabled life sciences, support workforce development in biomedical AI and computational biology, and foster academic-industry partnerships in Western New York's growing innovation economy.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for activities consistent with, and supportive of, NIST's mission and aligned with one or more of the functions and activities described in section 272 of title 15, United States Code.

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

Sincerely,

Timothy M. Kennedy
Member of Congress