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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4609

May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding in the amount of \$1,400,000.00 for the Craig County Emergency Communications project in fiscal year 2026. The funding would be used to continue the County's efforts to replace the aging and less efficient emergency communications equipment and enable the transition to a P25 UHF digital system.

The entity to receive this funding is Craig County Sheriff's Office, with offices located at 182 Main Street, Suite 1, New Castle, Virginia 24127.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because upgrading the County's aging emergency communications system to the P25 digital system will make it possible for all emergency response agencies in Craig County to have coverage, capacity, and interoperability to coordinate a response in the case of natural disaster, larger-scale emergency, and basic day-to-day operations.

Craig County is an economically stressed Appalachian county. This is in part because nearly half of the county is owned by the federal government as part of the George Washington & Jefferson National Forests, and therefore has limited capacity to raise revenues in the county.

This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 1701(b)(8) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10381(b)(8)).

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

Sincerely,

H. MORGAN GRIFFITH
Member of Congress