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MEMORIAL AFFAIRS
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

May 1, 2024

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Center of Rare Earths, Critical Minerals, and Recovered Minerals in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is Florida State University, located at 600 W. College Ave Tallahassee FL 32306. The funding would be used to purchase a high-powered electron microscope to assist in identifying critical minerals and radioactive grains of phosphogypsum, a waste product of phosphate.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will advance research to separate rare earth elements from phosphogypsum stacks and to increase the domestic rare earth element supply.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 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,



C. Scott Franklin

Member of Congress