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

May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As you begin crafting the Fiscal Year 2025 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, I respectfully request \$4,000,000 in funding for the Affordable Housing for Rural Workforce Training Students project in Roseburg, OR, within the Economic Development Initiatives account as part of the Committee's Community Project Funding effort.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Umpqua Community College (UCC), located at 704 SE Cass St, Roseburg, OR 97470.

UCC is requesting \$4,000,000 for construction costs associated with remodeling an existing building into an affordable housing complex for students. This project is part of UCC's ongoing efforts to repurpose historical structures in Roseburg to provide more affordable student housing options and expand rural workforce training opportunities. UCC has already repurposed two other buildings into affordable student housing in downtown Roseburg. This project would be their third renovation.

UCC, a key educational institution and workforce pipeline in rural Douglas County, Oregon, serves a significant proportion of non-traditional students balancing family, education, and career responsibilities. Responding to these needs, UCC has invested \$6 million since 2023 to renovate two downtown Roseburg buildings into affordable housing options for students. Now, with this \$4,000,000 funding request, UCC aims to transform its third property on 704 SE Cass St into an affordable housing complex.

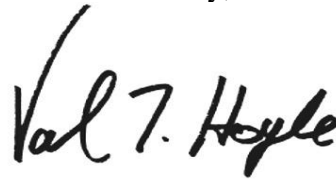
This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars because it addresses several critical needs for the local community: equitable access to education for low- to moderate-income students, housing solutions for rural workforce development, and rural community investment and economic growth. Upon completion, this complex will house approximately 60 students in a mix of single-occupancy and family-friendly units.

This project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(1), 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.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Val T. Hoyle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "V".

Val T. Hoyle
Member of Congress