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6TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

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COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
April 9th, 2026

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

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for The Strategic Opioid Response for Public Safety and Justice project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Texas A&M Health Science Center located at 8441 John Sharp Parkway, Clinical Building 1, Suite 3100, Bryan, Texas 77807. The Strategic Opioid Response for Public Safety and Justice project will provide education and outreach to law enforcement and the judicial system along the I-35 and I-45 corridors, which are known to be high drug trafficking corridors, as well as focus on surrounding rural counties of Anderson, Cherokee, Ellis, Hill, Navarro, and Freestone to prevent opioid-related crimes and decrease recidivism among at-risk individuals.

Specifically, the project will strengthen the workforce across law enforcement, the judicial system, including pretrial services, parole officers, prosecutors, the courts, and wrap-around services such as Child Protective Services (CPS), and Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), to reduce opioid use through evidence-based training, education, surveillance, and service navigation.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes described in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Ellzey".

Jake Ellzey
Member of Congress