



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

May 1, 2024

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for USDA-Farm Production and Conservation Programs/Conservation Operations, \$300,000 in FY25.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Texas A&M University System, located at 301 Tarrow Street, College Station, Texas 77840.

The funding would be used for the Feral Hog Community Cooperative Management Program.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because feral hogs are the most damaging invasive species globally. At present, Texas has more than half of the feral hogs in the U.S., and experiences over \$500M in agricultural damages annually. Although USDA-APHIS-Wildlife Services is a highly successful service agency that removes feral hogs, they do not have the funds or staff to combat feral hogs everywhere they occur. Often, private landowners report that they lack the equipment and labor to conduct management activities on their own.

This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized by the Soil Conservation and Allotment Domestic Act of 1935, 16 U.S. Code sections 590a-590d and 590f-g.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Ellzey', written over a printed name and title.

Jake Ellzey
Congressman, Texas 6th District