

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

May 1, 2025

## Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Miami-Dade County Public Schools Youth Empowerment and Safety Initiative (YES Initiative) in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Miami-Dade County Public Schools, located at 1450 Northeast 2nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33142. The funding would be used for The Youth Empowerment and Safety Initiative (YES Initiative), a comprehensive program to prevent youth crime in high-risk middle and high schools. This initiative promotes positive youth-police interactions, enhances job preparedness, and offers in-school mentorship to steer students away from gang and criminal activities.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the Youth Empowerment and Safety Initiative (YES Initiative) is designed to reduce youth crime and strengthen community ties through engagement between students and law enforcement in high-risk schools. This program integrates youth-police interactions, mentorship, job preparedness, and anti-gang activities to steer students toward positive life choices.

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,

Frederica S. Wilson Member of Congress

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