



FREDERICA S. WILSON  
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
24TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

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 Duval County Public Schools - Youth Empowerment and Safety Initiative (YES Initiative) in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Duval County Public Schools, located at 1701 Prudential Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32207. 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