COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION, RANKING MEMBER AVIATION HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES STRATEGIC FORCES TACTICAL AIR AND LAND FORCES COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE GENERAL FARM COMMODITIES, RISK MANAGEMENT, AND CREDIT



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The Honorable Kay Granger Chairwoman 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

March 31, 2023

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for UCSB: SciTrek STEM Education Program Expansion. The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of California, Santa Barbara located at UC Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara, California, 93106.

The funding would be used to expand UCSB's SciTrek program. SciTrek partners with local schools to present student-centered, practice-based modules that not only emphasize the process of science but also specific grade-level Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) performance expectations (grade level standard). SciTrek is dedicated to allowing 2nd - 12th grade students to experience the scientific process first hand.

UC Santa Barbara's SciTrek program has a direct correlation with the federal NASA priorities. SciTrek directly covers earth science, aeronautical and space research in their curriculum taught to 2nd-12th grade students. SciTrek has ten modules for 2nd-6th grades, four for 7th and 8th grade, and five for high schools. Many of these already cover earth science topics (e.g., soil erosion, water flow in various materials). Importantly, all SciTrek modules emphasize the use of mathematics and quantitative reasoning, including graphing, curve fitting, modelling, data analysis, etc., which are core to the fields of earth science and space studies.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will educate our youth on the scientific process and prepare them to meet educational standards.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for the purposes described in section 20102 of title 51, United States Code. I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Salud Carbajal Member of Congress