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

May 2, 2025

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

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Detention Alternative Youth Shelter Enhancements in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is CEDARS Youth Services, Inc., located at 6601 Pioneers Boulevard, Lincoln, Nebraska 68506.

The funding would be used for enhancing the alternative detention facility's equipment and evidence-based programming to reduce and prevent adolescent criminal behavior as well as treat youth ineligible for formal detention. This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this facility is the only resource of its kind for the criminal justice system in Southeast Nebraska to place youths aged from twelve-years-old to eighteen-years-old. Additionally, community need for youth alternative detention is growing. In 2024, CEDARS provided care to 2,377 youth, including 233 in the shelter, where demand has significantly grown.

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

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

Sincerely,



Michael J. Flood
Member of Congress