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MEMBER OF CONGRESS

NEW MEXICO
FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND INVESTIGATIONS

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March 24, 2023

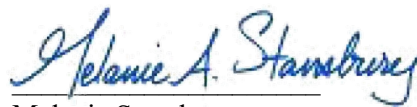
Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Region 9 Education Cooperative (REC 9) in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is The Region 9 Early Childhood Education Center, located at 2002 Sudderth Drive, Ruidoso, New Mexico 88345. The \$5,000,000 of funding would be used for the early childhood center will establish large-scale educational childcare, developmental services, after-school care, and an ECE teacher community college training site for this region. No such facility currently exists. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the McBride Fire of 2022 and the COVID pandemic put local daycare centers out of business except for three centers, or destroyed workforce housing. A number of workers in the region are now short of both housing and childcare. Both are community and regional priorities.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

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

Sincerely,



Melanie Stansbury
Member of Congress