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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger Chairwoman Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the NWIRC Innovation Center Network in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Northwest Innovation Resource Center, located at 2200 Rimland Dr. Str 210, Bellingham, Washington 98226. The funding would be used to establish an innovation center in Arlington at the Cascade Industrial Center (CIC). This center will serve as a hub for entrepreneurs and small businesses to explore new technologies and remain competitive.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the project builds the foundation for existing small innovative businesses and entrepreneurs to access resources required to contribute to vital and resilient local economies. It is structured to adapt as technologies and industries change so it provides an ongoing opportunity for skilled workforce and small businesses.

This project has a federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program: 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,

Suzan K. DelBene Member of Congress