

MICHAEL T. McCAUL
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**CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE
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**COMMITTEE ON
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4310

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chair
Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Water-Smart Rice in the Lower Colorado River Basin of Texas project in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, located at 578 John Kimbrough, Room 541, College Station, TX 77843. The funding would be used to support a one-year intensive Extension program that will provide outreach in the benefits and details of water-smart rice production, specifically the practice of alternate wet/dry (AWD) irrigation, in Colorado County with additional engagement from farmers accessing Colorado River water resources to the south. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because water-smart rice production using alternate wet/dry irrigation (AWD) instead of continuous flooding will decrease the quantity of water required to grow a crop by 20-70%, and reduce methane emissions by 50%.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by the Soil Conservation and Allotment Domestic Act of 1935, 16 U.S. Code sections 590a-590d and 590f-g.

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

Sincerely,



Michael T. McCaul
Member of Congress