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