

MICHAEL T. McCAUL
10TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

**CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE
ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY**

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4310

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2300 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2401

AUSTIN, TX
11614 FM 2244
SUITE 160
AUSTIN, TX 78738
P: (512) 473-2357

COLLEGE STATION, TX
175 CENTURY SQUARE DR.
SUITE 210
COLLEGE STATION, TX 77845
P: (979) 431-6480

March 17, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

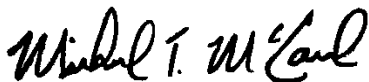
I am requesting \$6,000,000 in funding for FRONT: Frontline Response to Outbreaks & Novel Biological Threats in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Texas A&M AgriLife Research, located at 600 John Kimbrough Blvd, Suite 512 2142 TAMU College Station, Texas 77843, United States.

The purpose of this request is to protect U.S. agriculture, public health, and national security by deploying bio-surveillance networks across high-risk corridors along the U.S. Mexico border to detect and forecast emerging and engineered threats, rapidly develop countermeasures, integrate AI-assisted detection and drug discovery, and train a specialized workforce for sustained readiness. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it would decrease the risk of diseases that move between animals and people (zoonotic) and engineered biological threats along the border region between the United States and Mexico that can disrupt food supply chains, shut down agricultural exports, slow border operations, and weaken military readiness.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purpose authorized by section 272 of title 15, United States Code.

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