

MICHAEL A. RULLI
6TH DISTRICT, OHIO

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND THE WORKFORCE

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

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May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Inland Waterways Maritime Academy Project in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Monroe County, Ohio, located at 101 N. Main St., Woodsfield, Ohio, 43793.

The funding would be used to facilitate the completion of the Inland Waterways Maritime Academy, which will give individuals in Appalachia a new opportunity to build a career in the maritime industry. This Academy will provide the skills needed to become employment-ready for towboat and river fleet operations. The Academy will provide job-ready advancement, industry-credentialing, and career opportunities for individuals in Appalachia.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because there is a workforce shortage in the industry. Individuals in the Ohio/Pennsylvania/West Virginia region must currently travel to Toledo, Ohio, for such credentialing and training, which limits options for both workers and employers alike.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized under Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family have any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Michael A. Rulli

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