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

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

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March 13, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for \$650,000 in Fiscal Year 2027 for The Floating Water Workshop for Fund for the Water Works the intended recipient of this project is the University of Pennsylvania, Water Center at Penn located at 3600 Market Street, Suite560, Philadelphia, PA 19104. The Floating Water Workshop is a once-in-a-decade project that will simultaneously help children learn science and potentially pique their interest in science-related careers, inspire the next generation of climate resilience advocates, demonstrate effective practices that the region's environmentally focused organizations can replicate, provide an accessible platform for innovative water research for more than a dozen environmental education organizations and be a destination for visitors from near and far.

The Workshop will be a 5,400 sq. ft. motorless, floating rectangular platform moored in Philadelphia with its long side to the Delaware River shore, with a roofed center section and open-air living system demonstrations at each end. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds the Workshop will move from teaching about water from inside a building to teaching about water outside and on the water. In providing access to waterways and cultivating the next generation of environmental stewards, the Workshop will be crucial to building community knowledge, action, and resiliency.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding must be for activities consistent with, and supportive of, NIST's mission and aligned with one or more of the functions and activities described in 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,



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress