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READINESS

May 2, 2025

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives H-307 The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives 1036 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

## Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I request funding for the Expansion and Modernization of the Ambulatory Surgery and Obstetrics Department at Abbeville General Hospital in the fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Hospital Service District No. 2, Parish of Vermilion, dba Abbeville General Hospital, located at 118 N. Hospital Drive, Abbeville, LA 70510. The funding would be the purpose of expanding and modernizing the Ambulatory Surgery and Obstetrics Departments to allow Abbeville General Hospital a needed "pop off valve" or "surgical/delivery relief" to meet the growing volume of surgeries and deliveries. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it addresses disparities in rural health care and maternal health in Louisiana.

This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

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

Respectfully,

Clay Higgins Member of Congress