

CLAY HIGGINS
3RD DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

BOARD MEMBER
HOUSE FREEDOM CAUCUS



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

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READINESS

May 2, 2025

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 Commercial Diving Center of Excellence at South Louisiana Community College (SLCC) of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) in the fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is SLCC's Morgan City Campus at 900 Youngs Road Morgan City, LA 70380. The funding would be for a transformative project to overhaul and expand SLCC's Commercial Diving infrastructure. With a focus on meeting the demands of the area workforce and industry standards, this project aims to equip students with state-of-the-art facilities and technology to obtain 4- and 5-star certifications. Additionally, safety protocols and training specifications will be prioritized to ensure the highest standards of education and industry readiness. The infrastructure overhaul and expansion will involve renovating existing facilities and constructing new spaces to accommodate the latest equipment and training methodologies. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will not only enhance the learning experience for students but also contribute to the economic growth and competitiveness of the region by producing highly skilled commercial divers who are in high demand in local industry.

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