

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Improvised Explosive Devices Threat Training project in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the United States Bomb Technician Association, located at 4450 Indian Head Highway, Indian Head, MD 20640. The funding would be used to conduct training and analysis of threats on Home Made Explosives (HME)s explosive performance and sensitivity. This training will provide the first responder community with data on how to mitigate the hazards encountered in an HME clandestine laboratory or in a recovered or placed IED.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because, unfortunately, a weapon of choice both overseas and in the United States is Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). This is evident by the use of IEDs in some of the most horrific attacks on U.S. soil such as the bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in 1995 killing 168 people and the Boston Marathon bombing in 2013 killing 3 people and injuring hundreds of others. The Christmas 2020 Nashville bombing and the more recent threats to Historically Black Colleges and Universities make this a threat that can't be ignored. Investigators have concluded that the reasons behind the widespread use of HMEs as the explosive in IEDs is the commercial availability of the components, knowledge on how to make them and the ability to remain undetected by authorities. This project will combat the ability to remain undetected by authorities and dissuade would-be perpetrators.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steny Hoyer", written in a cursive style.

STENY H. HOYER
Member of Congress