

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-2703**

March 19, 2026

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

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Statewide Radios for Fire and EMS in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Richardson County Emergency Management, located at 1700 Stone Street, Falls City, NE 68355. The funding would be used for radio purchases for volunteer fire and EMS within Richardson County. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because Firefighters and EMS personnel operate in dynamic and hazardous environments where real-time communication is essential and these capabilities significantly enhance situational awareness and it would allow incident commanders to monitor personnel safety more efficiently. The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 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.

Sincerely,



Adrian Smith  
Member of Congress