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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-3311

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

VICE CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL SECURITY,  
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AND RELATED PROGRAMS SUBCOMMITTEE

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL  
GOVERNMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ON BUDGET

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 2051

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Clay County Agriculture Center for Clay County in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Clay County, located at P.O. Box 118, Hayesville, NC 28904.

The funding would allow for this small, rural, agriculture-dependent community that lacks the basic infrastructure needed to support and grow its farming economy to have a transformative addition to the community's agriculture and economic landscape. The proposed Agriculture Center—anchored by a 65,000-square-foot arena/equestrian facility and a 17,500-square-foot farmer's market—fills a critical gap in the county's ability to sustain local producers, expand value-added agriculture, and provide year-round space for community and youth agricultural programs.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chuck Edwards".

Chuck Edwards  
Member of Congress