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

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND  
THE WORKFORCE

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON LIVESTOCK, DAIRY,  
AND POULTRY

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chair  
House Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Flanders Nature Center's Farm and Environmental Education Pavilion Project in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Flanders Nature Center, located at 596 Flanders Road, Woodbury, CT 06798. The funding would be used to construct a new Farm and Environmental Education Pavilion. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it would enhance the existing facilities and provide a new educational space on the Van Vleck Farm and Nature Sanctuary Campus in Woodbury. Flanders is home to historic buildings and a growing population of participants from ten rural towns in the region. The new pavilion will provide a safe meeting space for Flanders activities including: University of Connecticut Extension Service 4-H Club; Flanders Farm education; Summer camp and Academy programs geared at children between the ages of 3-14; Adult / Community / Public educational programs; and Environmental Researchers & Citizen Scientists. In addition, the new pavilion will be located directly on the envisioned accessible trail and will be built in accordance with ADA standards. The Pavilion would be accessible for all those enjoying the trail. The Pavilion will also have solar panels placed on its roof that will take Flanders Farm buildings and two additional Flanders educational buildings "off-the-grid." Inside the pavilion there will be an educational display explaining the solar system in place.

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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jahana Hayes".

Jahana Hayes  
Member of Congress