



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0916**

May 1, 2024

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

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting \$3 million in funding for the Manatee County Government. This funding is for constructing a Veterans' Service Center. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds as this facility will provide crucial support for veterans suffering from mental health illnesses, job training/placement guidance and connect veterans with centralized assistance for state and federal benefits. The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vern Buchanan", written over a horizontal line.

Vern Buchanan  
Member of Congress