



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

April 29, 2022

The House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman DeLauro and Ranking Minority Member Granger:

I am requesting \$2.5 million for a Community Project Funding request. The intended recipient is the Gulf Shellfish Institute located at 1320 Eastern Avenue, Palmetto, Florida 34221. The funding will be used to support large-scale estuary habitat restoration and resilience projects in focus areas implemented by non-Federal entities within estuaries located in Southwest Florida to: improve estuary water quality; reduce the toxicity and persistence of harmful algal blooms; enhance estuary resilience to climate-related factors; stabilize sediment and improve shoreline protection qualities; mitigate estuary habitat loss; increase ecological productivity and biodiversity; and, stimulate new commercial and recreational opportunities in local communities.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vern Buchanan".

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Vern Buchanan  
Member of Congress

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