



RANDY WEBER
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
FOURTEENTH DISTRICT, TEXAS

April 27, 2022

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

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

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I request funding for Lamar University's Southeast Texas Data Analytics and Cybersecurity (SETX-DAC) for Energy Supply Chain Resilience Project in fiscal year 2023.

The entity to receive funding for this project is Lamar University, located at 4400 South Martin Luther King, Jr. Parkway, Beaumont, Texas 77705.

This project will build on the accomplishments of Lamar University's Centers of Excellence (Center for Resiliency, Center for Midstream Management and Sciences, and the Center for Advances in Port Management), by integrating the missions to develop the needed data analytics tools that will enhance cybersecurity for Texas' energy and petrochemical industry to achieve safer, resilient, and economically viable operations in both physical and virtual space. The project ensures that Texas will continue to lead the nation and the world in reliable energy production and export, boost regional economic development, create high-paying jobs, and enhance long-term sustainability of the U.S. and global energy supply.

The SETX-DAC partners include Southeast Texas Regional Planning Committee, the ports of Beaumont and Port Arthur, and local industry. The Texas energy and petrochemical industry depends on reliable transfer of feedstocks and products through millions of miles of gas, liquid, and oil pipelines, as well as the shipping and logistics operations at the ports of Houston, Beaumont, and Port Arthur. Considering the scale and frequency of floods and hurricanes, establishing a networking center and data collaborative for improved multi-disaster resiliency is also critical to sustainable industrial operations in the region. The three existing centers at Lamar University develop education, research, and outreach programs that support the workforce demands, as well as technological innovations for the processing, transportation, and storage of oil and gas feedstocks and products.

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

Sincerely,

RANDY K. WEBER
Member of Congress