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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0103

ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN

March 26, 2026

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Space Innovation and Workforce Development Center in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Auburn University located at 107 Samford Hall Auburn, AL 36849. The funding would allow for a Space Innovation and Workforce Development Center at Auburn University directly addresses these gaps by establishing a pipeline of trained engineers while providing the rapid development capabilities essential to accelerate innovation. Auburn University has a long history of workforce development in space industries—with Auburn alumni having served as astronauts on Apollo and Space Shuttle missions and thousands of engineering graduates trained for employment in civilian, military, and commercial space organizations. This proposal would fund a Space Innovation and Workforce Development Center at Auburn University to build on Auburn’s historic role in U.S. space leadership and talent development in three key mission areas: Workforce Shortages, Rapid development and embedding industry collaboration.

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 this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.”

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Rogers".

Mike Rogers
Member of Congress