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

Committee on House Administration
Ranking Member

Committee on Appropriations
Vice Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science, and Related Agencies
Subcommittee on Defense

March 17, 2026

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Semiconductor Nanofabrication Laboratory Equipment in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Rochester Institute of Technology, located at One Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, NY 14623.

The funding would be used for a suite of advanced semiconductor processing and characterization equipment to complete a transformative \$22.5M upgrade and expansion of RIT's Semiconductor Nanofabrication Lab (SNL), a hands-on training and research facility. Funds will be used to purchase thin-film processing equipment with sophisticated control systems, and metrology and testing equipment to analyze factors that affect device performance. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because a robust semiconductor supply chain is critical to the nation's economy and security. Research that leads to new devices with better performance and new functionalities enables breakthroughs in technologies that transform our lives. Improved chip performance over the past three decades led to advancements in personal computing, Web-based online services, and smartphones that radically changed our productivity and economy.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 272 of title 15, United States Code.

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 "Joseph D. Morelle".

Joseph Morelle
Member of Congress