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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole Chair House Committee on Appropriations H-307 The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member House Committee on Appropriations H-307 The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Children's Health Systems of Texas Referral and Evaluation of At-Risk Children ("REACH") Victim Resource Services in Fiscal Year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Children's Health Systems of Texas, located at 1935 Medical District Drive, Dallas, TX 75235. This project request seeks funding to secure the necessary employment for full-time employees to backfill the social worker positions that have been vacant since Children's Health Systems REACH lost state funding in 2022, as well as resources to children who have been victims of abuse, neglect, and other crimes.

Children's Health Systems REACH's Victim Resource Services has an established Memorandum of Understanding with the local law enforcement. In addition to its work with the local law enforcement, Children's Health Systems REACH Victim Services also partners with twenty other North Texas police departments, the Dallas Children's Advocacy Center, the District Attorney's Office, Texas Department of Family Services, Child Protective Services. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds as Children's Health Systems REACH Victim Services is the only clinic in Greater Dallas and North Texas with medical providers specially trained and certified in Child Abuse Pediatrics. Furthermore, many of the services and medical sub-specialization resources provided by Children's Health Systems REACH are not available anywhere else in the region. Accordingly, by receiving these funds, taxpayer money will ensure that children victims across North Texas who endure abuse and neglect receive will receive the most accurate and comprehensive victim assistance they need.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

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

Sincerely,

Jasmine Crockett Member of Congress