

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0605

May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting \$732,853 in funding for the University of Colorado Colorado Springs (UCCS) Cybersecurity Program and Research Lab Equipment in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Colorado Colorado Springs, located at 1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy, Colorado Springs, CO 80918. The funding would be used to acquire computers and computer equipment, simulator testbeds, and flight unit equipment to support training the next generation of cyber warfighters.

This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it supports workforce development for entry into the defense sector and directly supports the modernization of our cyberwarfare capabilities and the protection of space-based assets—both integral elements to the security of the nation and the Colorado Springs economy.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding supports the purposes authorized in 15 U.S.C. § 272. Section (c)(15) directs the Director to “facilitate and support the development of... industry-led set of standards, guidelines, best practices, methodologies, procedures, and processes to cost-effectively reduce cyber risks to critical infrastructure.” The success of this directive is contingent upon the training and equipping of the next generation of cybersecurity experts to provide real-world experience and feedback to the Director.

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

Sincerely,



Jeff Crank
Member of Congress