

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20510**

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-305 The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Kittitas Valley Healthcare Emergency Department Renovation - Ellensburg, WA project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Kittitas County Public Hospital District No. 1 (Kittitas Valley Healthcare), located at 603 S. Chestnut St, Ellensburg, WA 98926.

The funding would be used for the renovation of the Kittitas Valley Healthcare's Emergency Department. This project, which would complete the first phase of overall renovations, would lay the groundwork for an expanded emergency room treatment space, strengthen security at the department entrance, and would ultimately eliminate hallway care and improve safety for patients and staff alike. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because Kittitas Valley Healthcare operates the only 24/7 emergency department in all of Kittitas County and serves as a critical access hub along Interstate 90. With more than 17,992 visits annually, the hospital's emergency department is operating well beyond the capacity it was designed to support. As the sole emergency facility for the entire county, the hospital cares for victims of I-90 traffic collisions, winter weather and recreation-related trauma, agricultural injuries, cardiac and stroke emergencies, and behavioral health crises in a region with limited inpatient psychiatric resources.

The hospital currently has nine exam rooms and relies on seven hallway beds to manage overflow. These hallway beds are not used for rare surges; they are now part of daily operations. When hallways become treatment spaces, privacy is compromised. Infection control becomes more difficult and behavioral health patients lack appropriate stabilization environments. Staff work under sustained strain to provide safe, compassionate care in a space that no longer meets the needs of the community. This project would improve emergency department capacity, bolster regional emergency preparedness, and strengthen local access to emergency care for the entire county.

This project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Schrier". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "K" and a long, sweeping underline.

Kim Schrier, M.D.  
Member of Congress