PETE SESSIONS
17TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4317

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May 3, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I respectfully request funding for Advanced Cold-Spray Technology (ACT) Laboratory Equipment at the Point-Of-Need-Innovation (PONI) Center in Fiscal Year 2025. The entity to receive this funding is Baylor University, located at One Bear Place #97133, Waco, TX 76798.

The requested amount of $4,000,000 would be used to establish an Advanced Cold-Spray Technology (ACT) Laboratory at the newly established PONI Center to secure the manufacturing supply chain against disruptions and provide an integrated research laboratory for the next generation of manufacturing engineers. Cold-spray technology extends the service life of equipment by repairing corroded and damaged surfaces, limiting the need to replace entire components. According to the Naval Air Systems Command, cold-spray saved the Navy $13.3 million between 2006 and 2016 by successfully repairing damaged metallic components. The requested funding would be used to purchase: a cold-spray system, a nitrogen generation system, helium recycle system, and a powder atomizer. This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will support the resilience of the Texas defense industrial supply chain and prepare student researchers to make substantive workforce contributions. This project will also support necessary research and innovation through collaboration with educational institutions across the region, including Texas State Technical College and McLennan Community College, as well as by commercial and public-sector partners in the defense industrial base.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 1701(b)(8) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10381(b)(8))

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Pete Sessions
Member of Congress