

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-4305**

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Steve Womack  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing  
and Urban Development, and Related  
Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable James E. Clyburn  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing  
and Urban Development, and Related  
Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Womack and Ranking Member Clyburn,

As you consider the Fiscal Year 2027 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, I respectfully request full funding in the amount of \$15,000,000.00 for a Historically Black College and University servicing rural East Texas. Jarvis Christian University needs critical funding to address community needs in education, workforce development, and public infrastructure.

At least \$10 million in funds would be allocated toward the renovation of an existing and outdated building into a new state-of-the-art Workforce Training and Cybersecurity Center. This Center will offer students and community members cutting-edge training to meet industry needs. The remaining \$5 million will assist with the upgrade of the campus' current chiller-based HVAC system to a modern and energy-efficient HVAC system. This upgrade is essential in providing a safe and healthy learning environment for all students, faculty, and visitors.

Jarvis Christian University plays an important role in the Wood County community. There is robust community support for this project, including from the Texas Workforce Commission. I believe this project aligns with the Committee's and HUD's mission of promoting economic, workforce, and infrastructure development, and I hope the project can be fully realized with federal assistance.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Lance Gooden  
Member of Congress