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Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515–1102

May 3, 2024

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION, RESEARCH, AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NUTRITION, FOREIGN AGRICULTURE, AND HORTICULTURE

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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY PERSONNEL (VICE RANKING MEMBER)
SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS

SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

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

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Public Safety and Emergency First Responder Communications Resiliency Upgrade for West Maui in Fiscal Year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Maui Police Department located at 55 Mahalani Street, Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793.

Requested funds would be used to support the acquisition and installation of microwave radio links and Multiple Protocol Labeling System networking equipment to create an alternate communications route for public safety and emergency response purposes in West Maui. Completion of this project will ensure that law enforcement, first responders, and other agencies have redundant and resilient communications networks to depend on.

Current communications into West Maui travel along an overhead fiber optic cable route from Central Maui with only one route in and out of the area, leaving West Maui communications vulnerable to physical damage from disasters. This vulnerability has been made especially apparent in the aftermath of the Maui fires last August that destroyed the town of Lahaina.

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

Lastly, I certify that neither I nor anyone in my immediate family have a financial interest in this project.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Jili Jokuda Member of Congress