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

April 28, 2021

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

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

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I request funding for the Crnic Institute Immune Monitoring Station in Fiscal Year 2022. This request is for the Health Facilities Construction and Equipment program under the Health Resources Services Administration Account. The entity to receive funding for the project is Linda Crnic Institute for Down Syndrome at the University of Colorado, located at 12700 East 19th Avenue, Aurora, CO 80045.

The Crnic Institute is seeking \$948,000 to support the purchase of an Immune Monitoring Station. A major discovery by scientists at the Crnic Institute is that much of this differential disease spectrum could be explained by chronic dysfunction of the immune system among those with Down syndrome. This state-of-the-art equipment will enable a deep and comprehensive characterization of the immune system of individuals with Down syndrome with and without diverse comorbidities.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds. The Crnic Institute has been a leader in federal Down syndrome research and currently holds the largest amount of NIH dollars for the study of the immune system in Down syndrome, including grants from NIAID, NIAMS and NHLBI. The acquisition of an Immune Monitoring Station will build upon this foundation to enhance the Institute's research into Down Syndrome to potentially benefit the 7-8 million people with Down syndrome across the world. Moreover, understanding how the immune system affects the comorbidities of Down syndrome would also benefit the general population affected by these same conditions.

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

Sincerely,

Jason Crow
Member of Congress