

EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER  
FIRST DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
ENVIRONMENT, MANUFACTURING,  
& CRITICAL MINERALS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
THE BUDGET

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1001**

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
2432 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-5831

SAVANNAH OFFICE  
6602 ABERCORN STREET, SUITE 105B  
SAVANNAH, GA 31405  
(912) 352-0101

BRUNSWICK OFFICE  
777 GLOUCESTER STREET, SUITE 410  
BRUNSWICK, GA 31520  
(912) 265-9010

<http://BuddyCarter.House.gov>

May 1, 2024

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

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

Dear Chairman Cole, and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for Augusta University (AU) in fiscal year 2025 to support the College of Science and Math for Rapid Fentanyl Detection. The entity to receive funding for this project is Augusta University, located at 1120 15th St, Augusta, GA 30912.

The funding would be used to further develop an instrument that improves current detection methods of narcotics and other substances by rapidly providing accurate data analysis to Field Operations agents without having to risk their safety. This project proposes to develop a sweep of instruments to create a Chemical Immune Border (CIB) that acts in real time to help protect first responders across-the-board. The research will be conducted and led by Dr. Guido Verbeck, who has been registered with Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Diversion Control for the last 14 years, and has schedule 1-5 license from DEA to work with actual drugs of abuse. This will insure that the instrument performance metrics are measured with true, not surrogate, drugs that U.S. Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) agents and first responders will encounter.

The project has a federal nexus because funding is for purposes authorized in section 272 of title 15, United States Code. Additionally, accidental exposure to opioids through the transdermal route creates a serious problem CBP agents and current technology requires large amounts of time and puts agents at risk of direct contact with these substances.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Earl L. "Buddy" Carter  
Member of Congress

