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

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-305, the Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Establishment of a Battery Dry Room at the University of Georgia in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is The University of Georgia Foundation. Funding will be used to purchase equipment for a battery dry-room facility that will serve as foundational infrastructure for advanced battery research, manufacturing, recycling, and safety studies. Many next-generation battery materials—including solid-state electrolytes, zinc-ion batteries, polymer-based and fiber-embedded batteries, and recycled electrode materials—are highly sensitive to moisture and cannot be fabricated, assembled, or evaluated under ambient conditions. The requested funding will be used to procure and install dry-room infrastructure, environmental control systems, and associated equipment necessary to enable UGA's nationally differentiated battery research portfolio. This investment will strengthen Georgia's leadership in the Southeastern Battery Belt, support both EV manufacturing and defense-relevant energy storage technologies, advance domestic critical minerals security, and train a highly skilled battery workforce to serve the state of Georgia and the nation.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 272 of title 15, United States Code.

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