

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-2504

May 23, 2025

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 HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Economic Growth through Skyhaven Airport Expansion project in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Central Missouri, located at 108 W South Street, Warrensburg, Missouri 64093. The funding would be used to expand the Max B. Swisher Skyhaven Airport's 1/19 Runway by 810 feet to 5,016 feet and relocating 600 feet, thereby allowing for increased usage and economic growth.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the extension provides local economic growth opportunities for Johnson County through increased airport traffic and commercial operations at the airport, the aviation academic programs provide workforce training for professional pilots (BS), as well as in Aviation Management (BS/MBA) and Aviation Safety (MS). Graduates from these programs work throughout the United States and help to curb the workforce shortages in the aviation industry that are being experienced now.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 49 U.S.C. 47100 et seq.

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

Sincerely,



Mark Alford  
Member of Congress