

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

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-307, 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 Indian River Lagoon (IRL) Smart & Secure Shores Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Florida Institute of Technology, a 501(c)(3) university, located at 150 West University Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32901.

The funding will be used to work within an existing multi-stakeholder partner framework, including the IRL National Estuary Program and Florida Tech's Vertex Applied Innovation Hub, to deploy modular 3D concrete-printed shoreline defenses; embed sensor-enabled digital-twin technology for shoreline data capture; and train a skilled workforce. The funds will boost restoration efficiency shoreline-resilience technologies to protect the Indian River Lagoon.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it supports a nationally significant estuary while protecting and enhancing federal, state and local projects to maximize impact.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. § 1451 et seq.).

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

Respectfully,



Mike Haridopolos  
Member of Congress