

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ
25TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

CO-CHAIR,
DEMOCRATIC STEERING & POLICY
COMMITTEE

DEMOCRATIC DEAN & CO-CHAIR,
FLORIDA DELEGATION



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION,
VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED
AGENCIES
RANKING MEMBER

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE
WEAPONIZATION OF THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT

May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Equipment Acquisition to advance functional precision medicine approaches and imaging studies for hard-to-treat cancers in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Florida International University (FIU), located at 11200 SW 8 Street, Miami, FL 33199. The funding would be used for FIU to purchase equipment and imaging material for a precision medicine program that provides personalized and functional drug testing on individual patient's tumor cells to guide clinical decision making and provide novel therapeutic options for pediatric cancer patients with no alternative options.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because treatments for patients whose cancers have returned and have exhausted standard treatment options remain an unmet and major challenge across the country resulting in 600,000 deaths annually. FIU is well-positioned to be leading critical research and national clinical trials focused on approaches to identify individualized treatment options more rapidly for hard-to-treat cancers, in particular with minority populations.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by NIST's mission and aligned with one or more of the functions and activities described in 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Debbie Wasserman Schultz".

Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress