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May 3, 2024

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Future Interstate 57 (Walnut Ridge to Missouri State Line) for Fiscal Year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Arkansas Department of Transportation, located at 10324 Interstate 30, Little Rock, AR 72209. The funding will be used by the Arkansas Department of Transportation to complete construction of future I-57 from Walnut Ridge, Arkansas, to the Missouri State line. The project will complete a contiguous highway linking Little Rock, Arkansas, through St. Louis, Missouri, and terminating in Chicago, Illinois. This North/South corridor will bring increased mobility, safety, and economic competitiveness to the entire region.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the addition of a four-lane highway from Little Rock to Chicago with full Interstate designation would attract business to the area and provide a direct link for freight and consumer movement through the south-central U.S. to the Midwest. By completing this 42-mile section of I-57, historically disadvantaged communities in northeast Arkansas will receive economic benefits that could otherwise not be achieved.

This project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 23 USC 133(b).

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

Sincerely,



Eric A. "Rick" Crawford
Member of Congress