

Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0904

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
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

Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,


I am requesting funding for the acquisition of an atomic force microscope in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of North Florida, located at 1 UNF Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32224.

The funding would be used to purchase an atomic force microscope that would contribute to applied research and development work across Northeast Florida. Specifically, this microscope will be used for cutting edge research on advanced manufacturing and lifesaving drugs. Atomic force microscopes allow for high resolution imaging of a surface and their manipulation at a nanoscale. Using an atom-scale tip, these microscopes can etch a surface and deposit a different material into the etched area which is necessary for manufacturing small objects like atomic-scale semiconductors.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will improve and accelerate research in advanced manufacturing. As the U.S. works to develop advanced manufacturing capabilities here at home, investment in these microscopes will allow for research on how to improve and better manufacture vital technology. Additionally, the project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes 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,



John Rutherford
Member of Congress