



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

March 20, 2026

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting \$2,230,000 for the Rural Labor and Delivery Capacity Expansion Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Adams County Public Hospital District No.3 d/b/a Othello Community Hospital located at 315 N. 14th Avenue in Othello, Washington, 99344.

The funding would be used to increase the capacity of Othello Community Hospital to provide top-rate care for local families where more than 400 babies are delivered annually. The project includes features that improve access to care, health and wellness outcomes, and hospital infrastructure. This project integrates critical technology directly into the labor and delivery suites. There will be dedicated triage beds, vital monitors, NICU systems, newborn warming stations, and diagnostic imaging machines for the obstetric unit. To address access, the project will also provide a new ambulance so that families do not have to worry about how they will get to the hospital when events like precipitous labor occur without planning.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it is an investment in community health care, family planning, and rural America. Othello Community Hospital has a vast service area that encompasses parts of Adams, Grant, and Franklin counties. This is a very rural region of the state; the next closest delivery hospital is over 30 miles away via a two-lane road. With that, the obstetric department assists with the delivery of over 400 newborns annually.

This project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for the purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family have any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Newhouse".

Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress