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4TH DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0404

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March 26, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for The Port of Pine Bluff in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Pine Bluff - Jefferson Country Port Authority, located at 510 Main Street, Pine Bluff, Arkansas, 71611. The Port of Pine Bluff is seeking funding to replace or demolish dangerous and deteriorating infrastructure that has reached the end of its useful life. This project focuses on the most urgent needs to ensure continued operations and expand use of the port and its transload facilities, which support both interstate and global commerce.

This investment is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because the Port of Pine Bluff is a critical economic engine for the region and a vital link in national and international supply chains. The port supports industries that produce concrete, horticultural products, tire cord, hoses, pet food, and agricultural inputs, while also facilitating exports such as wood pellets to the United Kingdom and Japan. Its intermodal connections to the inland waterway system, the federal highway network, and Class I railroads enable businesses to move goods efficiently across the United States and around the world. Without these infrastructure improvements, the port risks losing capacity, competitiveness, and the ability to support the jobs and economic activity that depend on it.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 46 USC 54301.

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

Sincerely,



Bruce Westerman
Member of Congress