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

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rose DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Irell & Manella Graduate School of Biological Sciences' (IMGS), Graduate Education Division of the Beckman Research Institute of City of Hope, Cell Sorter research instrument for Fiscal Year 2027. This entity is located at 1500 E. Duarte Road, Duarte, CA 91010.

The funding would be used to acquire an advanced research instrument that will support graduate education and cancer immunotherapy research. This funding will enable researchers to analyze immune cells at the single-cell level, helping scientists understand why some patients respond to immunotherapy while others do not.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this project will strengthen biomedical workforce training while accelerating discoveries that improve cancer diagnosis and treatment.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided aligns with the statutory mission of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to advance measurement science, standards, and technology that support innovation and scientific discovery 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 black ink that reads "Luz M. Rivas".

Luz M. Rivas
Member of Congress
California's Twenty-Ninth Congressional District