

MADELEINE DEAN  
4TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
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March 27, 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 Advancing Manufacturing Innovations & Workforce Training at Penn State Berks MILL in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is The Pennsylvania State University, located at 201 Old Main, University Park, PA 16802.

The funding would be used for construction and capital improvements to Penn State Berks' Manufacturing Innovation & Learning Lab (MILL), which supports advanced manufacturing design, development, training, and education in support of the small and medium sized manufacturers (SMMs) in Berks and Chester Counties. The MILL is dedicated to supporting regional industry and expanding access to engineering education, workforce training, and K-12 STEM programming. With these additions, the MILL can be a regional leader in advanced manufacturing and expertise for local manufacturing community.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because while manufacturing is the largest industry in Berks County, many are Small to Medium Sized Manufacturers (SMMs) without the ability to access and adopt new advanced manufacturing technologies. Robust support from the community, as reflected in letters of support, confirms this need and validates Penn State Berks' ability to fill the gap. The Advancing Manufacturing Innovation & Workforce Training with Smart Factory Equipment at the MILL project is ready for immediate impact to contribute to long-term workforce development and economic growth.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Madeleine Dean". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "M".

Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress