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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

CHAIRMAN, CONGRESSIONAL EXECUTIVE  
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COMMISSION

SENIOR MEMBER, HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE

[www.chrissmith.house.gov](http://www.chrissmith.house.gov)

May 23, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairwoman  
U.S. House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
U.S. House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting planning and design funding for Lakehurst NAS Naval Secure Test Aviation Research Hangar in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, located at 2901 Falcon Ln, McGuire AFB, NJ 08641. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it supports the critical mission of Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR), would deliver state-of-the-art facilities needed to support next generation air craft development and deployment, as well as directly supports efforts to build the carrier air wing of the future.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 10 U.S.C. Chapter 169 and the National Defense Authorization Act. As the nation's first Tri-service base, JB MDL is a critical military installation which enjoys robust support of the local community for both its current and future missions critical to national security. The total amount requested for planning and design is \$7,000,000.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

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

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH  
Member of Congress