April 28, 2021

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Chairwoman
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting $1,010,000 for the Pima County Community College District for the equipment needed for the Flexible Industry Training (FIT) Lab at Pima Community College’s new Center of Excellence in Applied Technology in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Pima County Community College, 4905 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85709. The location of the project is the Applied Technology Center of Excellence at Pima Community College, Downtown Campus, 1255 North Stone Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85709-3000.

The funding will be used to fund the equipment needed for the Flexible Industry Training (FIT) Lab at Pima Community College’s new Center of Excellence in Applied Technology, where PCC will partner together with business and industry to train and upskill employees with necessary 21st century skills. In order to continuously meet the future needs of the labor market, PCC is building multiple Centers of Excellence. Each of Pima Community College’s Centers of Excellence will have its own Flexible Industry Training (FIT) Lab, where the necessary innovation, collaboration, partnership, workforce recovery, and reengineering of higher education can occur to create a talent pipeline that builds a workforce that is imperative for a thriving Arizona economy. Additionally, this space will attract larger business and industry partners from other locations into Southern Arizona. The collective impact that will result from the FIT Lab will result in job creation, a high-skilled and educated workforce, and a strong economy. This $1 million will allow PCC to purchase more than 41 pieces of state-of-the art manufacturing equipment, ranging from 3D scanners and printers, to foundry and casting equipment, to electronic assembly tools, laser cutter, robotic arms and probes, and electronic wiring trainers.
I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress