## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-4403

Project Name: Utah Lake Research Center

**Recipient:** Utah Lake Authority

Address: 51 S. University Ave, #109, Provo, UT 84601

Amount Requested: \$5,000,000

Project Explanation: The funding would be used to construct a research center at Utah Lake to address environmental challenges such as algal blooms, water scarcity, invasive species, and preserving the Great Salt Lake. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because Utah Lake has the potential to be a major economic engine for Utah County, but due to challenges such as fluctuating water levels and harmful algal blooms, the lake does not provide many of the benefits that it could to the region and state. Through this center, Utah Lake Authority will provide engaging, impactful learning opportunities for 40,000 community visitors per year. UVU will provide laboratory space to advance innovative solutions to the Lake's most pressing challenges which will benefit both the regional economy and the ecosystem of the State of Utah.

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May 23, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole Chair Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Utah Lake Research Center in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Utah Lake Authority, located at 51 S. University Ave #109, Provo, UT 84601. The funding would be used to construct a research center at Utah Lake to address environmental challenges such as algal blooms, water scarcity, invasive species, and preserving the Great Salt Lake. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because Utah Lake has the potential to be a major economic engine for Utah County, but due to challenges such as fluctuating water levels and harmful algal blooms, the lake does not provide many of the benefits that it could to the region and state. Through this center, Utah Lake Authority will provide engaging, impactful learning opportunities for 40,000 community visitors per year. UVU will provide laboratory space to advance innovative solutions to the Lake's most pressing challenges which will benefit both the regional economy and the ecosystem of the State of Utah.

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,

Mike Kennedy, M.D. (UT-03)

Member of Congress