



Congress of the United States
Washington, DC

March 26, 2026

The Honorable Chairman Cole
Chairman, House Committee on
Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ranking Member DeLauro
Ranking Member, House Committee on
Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Port MacKenzie Cell 1 Replacement and Dry Storage Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Matanuska-Susitna Borough, located at 28000 S. Don Young Road Wasilla, AK 99654.

The funding would be used to replace a deteriorating section of the Port MacKenzie barge dock and construct a dry storage warehouse to improve cargo handling and port operations. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because these improvements will increase port reliability, improve cargo storage and handling capabilities, and support continued use of the port for freight shipments, infrastructure projects, and military training operations. Port MacKenzie plays an important role in Alaska's freight system by serving barge operators transporting materials to communities across the state and supporting bulk imports such as cement and salt used in transportation infrastructure projects.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 46 USC 54301. 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 "Nicholas J. Begich III".

Nicholas J. Begich III
Congressman for All Alaska