

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4324

May 21, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As you begin crafting the Fiscal Year 2026 Commerce, Justice, Science and related agencies bill, I respectfully request \$269,186 in funding for the Texas Health Resources in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital Dallas at 8200 Walnut Hill Ln, Dallas, TX 75231.

The proposed expansion of Texas Health Resources' Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program is a vital investment in public safety, healthcare, and justice for survivors of violent crimes. By transforming its existing program into a comprehensive Forensic Nursing Program, Texas Health Resources will improve healthcare responses for victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, and human trafficking across North Texas.

Sexual violence is a pervasive issue in Texas, with over 18,000 sexual offenses reported statewide in 2023. Studies show that forensic evidence collected by trained SANE professionals significantly increases prosecution rates, leading to a 95% increase in successful convictions. By expanding forensic nursing services at three hospitals located in TX-24, this initiative will enhance survivor care, improve legal outcomes, and strengthen collaboration between medical professionals, law enforcement, and community stakeholders.

This funding will directly contribute to a more effective response to violent crimes, ensuring survivors receive timely medical attention and justice. By investing in forensic nursing, taxpayer dollars will support a program with proven results, strengthening public safety and healthcare infrastructure across North Texas.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding is for purposes authorized by the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Beth Van Duyne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "B".

Beth Van Duyne
Member of Congress