

Congress of the United States

STACEY E. PLASKETT
VIRGIN ISLANDS

House of Representatives

2059 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC

Washington, DC 20515

March 27, 2026

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the **Charlotte Kimelman Cancer Institute PET/CT Diagnostic Imaging Expansion Project** in fiscal year 2027. The public entity project sponsor to receive funding for this project is Schneider Regional Medical Center (SRMC), located in the U.S. Virgin Islands at 9048 Sugar Estate, St. Thomas, VI 00802. The anticipated location of the project is the Charlotte Kimelman Cancer Institute at SRMC, 9048 Sugar Estate, St. Thomas, VI 00802.

The requested funding would be used by SRMC to purchase a PET/CT scanner for the Charlotte Kimelman Cancer Institute (CKCI) — the Territory's primary oncology center, recently reconstructed following damage sustained during the 2017 hurricanes. SRMC is the only hospital serving St. Thomas and an important referral center for patients across the U.S. Virgin Islands. Currently, no PET/CT imaging capability exists anywhere in the USVI, forcing cancer patients to travel to Puerto Rico or the continental United States for essential diagnostic imaging, creating delays in diagnosis and treatment planning and imposing significant financial and emotional burdens. PET/CT imaging enables physicians to detect cancer, determine disease stage, guide treatment decisions, and monitor recurrence with greater precision than conventional imaging methods. Establishing this capability locally at CKCI will provide essential diagnostic services to all USVI residents for the first time. This funding is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will close a critical gap in cancer care, improve survival outcomes, and eliminate the off-island travel burden that currently delays life-saving diagnosis and treatment for residents of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized under the Public Health Service Act.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress