

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

STACEY E. PLASKETT
VIRGIN ISLANDS

2059 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC

March 27, 2026

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the **JFL Advanced MRI Imaging Expansion Project** in fiscal year 2027. The public entity project sponsor to receive funding for this project is Gov. Juan F. Luis Hospital and Medical Center (JFL), located in the U.S. Virgin Islands at 4007 Estate Diamond Ruby, Christiansted, VI 00820. The anticipated location of the project is 4007 Estate Diamond Ruby, Christiansted, VI 00820.

The requested funding would be used by JFL to purchase and install a 3.0 Tesla MRI system, establishing on-site magnetic resonance imaging capability at the only hospital serving St. Croix's more than 40,000 residents. Despite serving as the island's sole acute care facility, JFL currently has no MRI scanner. When MRI imaging is required, patients must be transferred to a private imaging facility on the island, introducing diagnostic delays, increasing hospital costs, and creating inefficiencies in emergency and inpatient care. A modern 3.0 Tesla system offers higher image resolution, faster scan times, expanded clinical applications across neurology, oncology, cardiovascular diagnostics, and musculoskeletal medicine, and advanced deep-learning reconstruction technology. This funding is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will close a critical gap in diagnostic services, strengthen emergency and surgical care, and ensure that St. Croix residents have reliable access to advanced imaging.

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