

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 **SRMC Clinical Laboratory Infrastructure and Diagnostic Capacity 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 9048 Sugar Estate, St. Thomas, VI 00802.

The requested funding would be used by SRMC to purchase new laboratory equipment that will expand diagnostic testing capacity and strengthen the hospital's clinical laboratory services. SRMC is the only hospital serving the residents of St. Thomas and St. John, providing emergency, surgical, and inpatient services to the island's population. Laboratory test results guide approximately 70 percent of all medical decisions, making a reliable, modern laboratory essential to quality patient care. This funding will allow SRMC to replace aging equipment and add new diagnostic platforms supporting microbiology, pathology, blood bank, and routine laboratory testing, reducing the need to send specimens off-island, improving turnaround times for critical diagnostic results, and strengthening SRMC's ability to respond to public health emergencies and natural disasters. This funding is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will strengthen diagnostic capacity, improve patient outcomes, and enhance healthcare resilience for the 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