

VICENTE GONZALEZ  
34TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON CAPITAL MARKETS  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY,  
ILLCIT FINANCE, AND INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL  
INSTITUTIONS

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-4315

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
1201 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-2531

BROWNSVILLE OFFICE  
835 E. LEVEE ST., 6TH FLOOR  
BROWNSVILLE, TX 77820  
(956) 682-5545

gonzalez.house.gov

March 27, 2026

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

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Texas Southmost College Workforce Training Center Project Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Texas Southmost College, 80 Fort Brown, Brownsville, Texas, 78520.

The funding would be used to rehabilitate and renovate a Texas Southmost College-owned facility, the historic 1923 Old Coast Guard Station, into a Workforce Training Center serving the coastal communities of South Padre Island and Port Isabel. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds as it will expand workforce development opportunities, address regional labor shortages, and support economic growth in a tourism-driven economy. Planned improvements include structural rehabilitation, HVAC replacement, fire and life-safety upgrades, and interior buildout to accommodate classrooms and hands-on training labs. Once completed, the Center will provide training in hospitality and tourism, construction, industrial maintenance, marine engine repair, and public safety, directly supporting local employers and creating pathways to higher-wage careers for residents across surrounding communities. By transforming an underutilized public asset into a workforce hub, the project strengthens job readiness, enhances employer capacity, and promotes long-term economic mobility in the region.

This project has a federal nexus as it is for the same purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2). I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress