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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4611

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

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MIDDLE EAST, NORTH AFRICA, AND GLOBAL
COUNTERTERRORISM
ASIA, THE PACIFIC,
CENTRAL ASIA, AND NONPROLIFERATION

April 30, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Appropriations Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I write to respectfully request \$2,000,000 in fiscal year 2022 funding for the Fairfax County Green Bank. The entity to receive funding for this project is Fairfax County Government, located at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

This project would fund a local green bank in Fairfax County. This is a concept piloted successfully first by the State of Connecticut with the strong support of the Chair, and legislation has been introduced in the House that would establish a national green bank (National Green Bank Act, H.R. 3423, 116th). The bank will help finance energy-efficiency, renewable energy, and energy resilience projects in residential, commercial, and institutional buildings. The Green Bank will facilitate capital improvements to facilities that improve energy efficiency and provide renewable energy, thereby lowering operating costs and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The green bank would have a strong equity focus, targeting investments for low- and moderate-income households, disadvantaged communities, and other entities in need of credit enhancement. This emphasis will strengthen the local community and the County economy. The County green bank will lower greenhouse gas emissions, reduce local air pollution, and provide economic growth to the clean energy businesses in Fairfax County. In addition, it will lower operating costs for many cash-strapped households and businesses, thereby improving their long-term economic sustainability. A green bank was identified as a priority of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in 2020 as an element of "Fairfax Green Initiatives # 2." Enabling legislation granting the authority to local governments to create green banks was a Fairfax County legislative initiative at the 2021 session of the Virginia General Assembly, and that legislation passed the General Assembly and was signed by the Governor on March 30, 2021.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress
11th District, Virginia