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CHELLIE PINGREE  
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
1<sup>ST</sup> DISTRICT, MAINE

March 27, 2026

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
SUB COMMITTEES:

FORESTRY AND HORTICULTURE

LIVESTOCK, DAIRY, AND POULTRY

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
SUBCOMMITTEES:

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND  
RELATED AGENCIES (RANKING MEMBER)

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT,  
AND RELATED AGENCIES

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Convening Commons project in fiscal year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the University of Maine System, located at:

The University of Maine System  
5781 Wingate Hall  
Orono, ME 04469-5703

The funding would be used to renovate space at the Maine Center at 300 Fore Street in Portland to create the Convening Commons, a statewide hub that brings together University staff and students, business, entrepreneurs, and community partners. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will advance workforce development, innovation, and economic growth across Maine.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(4).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chellie Pingree".

Chellie Pingree  
Member of Congress

